

OIC urges end to war before Ramadan

BAHRAIN (R) — An Islamic peace committee has appealed to both Iran and Iraq to halt the Gulf war before the fasting month of Ramadan which is expected to begin on June 22 or 23, the secretary-general of the 43-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) said Monday. Habib Chatti told Reuters by telephone from his office in Jeddah that the chairman of the OIC's committee, Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Touré, had also urged the two Muslim countries to seek a peaceful solution to the 20-month-old conflict through the nine-man group's efforts. He said the dual appeal was sent to Presidents Ali Khamenei of Iran and Saddam Hussein of Iraq on Saturday. Mr. Chatti, a member of the committee, said the group, which last visited Tehran and Baghdad in April, had submitted "constructive proposals which form a sound basis for ending the war."

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جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Khorramshahr battle continues

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq said its troops Monday killed 172 Iranians in fighting north of the Khuzestan town of Khorramshahr, which Iran claims it is besieging. Warplanes and helicopters struck Iranian positions in the same area, inflicting heavy losses in armour and other vehicles and returning safely to base, Iraq's military command said in a communiqué issued by the news agency INA. It said 10 more Iranians were killed near Gilan-e-Gharb and Sumar in the central sector of the front in the 20-month-old Gulf war. The communiqué put Iraq's losses for the past 24 hours at 10 men killed and two vehicles wrecked.

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Qatari team arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — The Qatari delegation of the joint Jordanian-Qatari Information Committee, entrusted with following up and implementing the information agreement concluded between the two countries, arrived in Amman Monday. The delegation includes the director of the Qatari News Agency, the director of programmes at the Qatari Television, and the director of press and publications at the information ministry.

AOAS chief goes to Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-General of the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS) Abdullah Al Zu'bi left Amman for Tunis on Monday to participate in the meetings of the committee coordinating the activities of the Arab League General Secretariat and the specialised Arab organisations, which will begin at the Arab League headquarters at the end of this month. Dr. Zu'bi will also head the AOAS delegation to the seminar which the organisation will hold in Tunis on the modernisation of civil service regulations in the Arab World. The six-day seminar will begin on Saturday, he said. Delegations including the deputy heads of the central civil service commissions in the Arab countries and leading administrators will participate in the seminar.

Amman Chamber of Industry asks for industrialists' views

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry has asked the owners of industrial enterprises in Jordan for their ideas and views on how to develop the industrial sector, chamber Director Ali Al Dajani said. Mr. Dajani explained that many people are complaining about the difficulties they face in the industrial field either because of the expansion of the industrial sector or because of the need to deal with the administrative and legislative measures which sometimes hinder industrial activities. The chamber also requested the industrialists to present their views on the topics they deem fit for study deeply to develop the industrial sector in terms of productivity, development of training and other related topics. He said the Amman stock market has agreed to participate with the Chamber in conducting specialised studies according to priorities of the future trends in industry.

Egypt, Israel resume talks on Taba

ISMAILIA, Egypt (R) — Egypt and Israel resumed talks here Monday on a border dispute in the Sinai Peninsula, which Israel returned to Egypt last month. They are trying to reach agreement through bilateral talks before resorting to arbitration, as stipulated in the U.S.-sponsored Camp David treaty. The dispute over the 700-metre coastal strip at Taba, south of the Israeli port of Eilat, was discussed in Israel earlier this month.

Protests continue in West Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinian demonstrators threw petrol bombs at two Israeli military vehicles near Bethlehem on the occupied West Bank Monday, an army spokesman said. No casualties or damage were reported after the bombs were tossed at the military patrols passing through the village of Alazaria, the spokesman said. He also said a bomb exploded near a military camp outside Jericho, without causing injuries or damage. Authorities were Monday investigating an incident in which a 17-year-old Palestinian was shot in the stomach in the village of Silwad near Ramallah on Sunday. Military version of the incident says that shortly after an Israeli officer who came under a hail of stones in the village had fired into the air to disperse protesters.

Badran briefs NCC

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran has briefed the National Consultative Council (NCC) members on the latest developments in the Gulf War and Arab-Egyptian relations.

During a regular session of the NCC on Monday, conducted by Speaker Suleiman Arar and attended by the prime minister and cabinet members, council Chairman Abdul Wahab Al Majali asked Mr. Badran to enlighten the members on the Iraq-Iran war and the status of Arab relations with Egypt after the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

U.N. pursues urgent talks as Thatcher declares 'war or peace within a week'

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Urgent efforts for a diplomatic settlement of the Falklands crisis were pursued here Monday as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher predicted that this week would bring peace or war with Argentina.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar spent over an hour with British Representative Sir Anthony Parsons, just back from a weekend of consultations in London.

"I think we are really at the final stage of our exercise," the secretary-general told reporters before the meeting.

Sir Anthony emerged from the talks saying, "we are still engaged in very serious, determined and urgent efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement."

In London, Mrs. Thatcher told a radio interviewer that Sir Anthony was having "one more go" at persuading Argentina to pull out of the barren islands occupied more than six weeks ago. "My guess is that we shall know this week whether we are going to get a peaceful settlement or not," she said.

In Luxembourg, meanwhile, British hopes of maintaining a united West European front on sanctions against Argentina faded with Italy opposing renewal of a Common Market trade ban.

Foreign ministers of the 10-nation European Economic Community (EEC) failed in two hours of meetings to agree on a formula for keeping the embargo in effect after midnight, when it was due to expire.

The EEC ministers arranged a further late-night session in an effort to beat the deadline.

Argentina: Britain endangers Falklanders' lives

Meanwhile in Buenos Aires, the Argentine high command accused Britain's task force of launching indiscriminate attacks that endangered the lives of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islanders it was supposed to protect.

A communiqué said British Harrier jets damaged several civilian installations in Fox Bay on Sunday while a bomb fell without exploding near a house at Port Darwin.

On Sunday the high command said British Sea Harriers had staged two bombing raids on Fox Bay and Darwin and had been driven off by Argentine forces.

Monday's communiqué said several installations belonging to civilians were destroyed in Fox

door session during which the prime minister explained in detail all aspects of the situation and answered questions and by NCC members.

The NCC then resumed its session by continuing discussion of the income tax draft law for 1982. The NCC approved three new articles of the draft law after introducing amendments to them. These articles are related to the exemptions and deductions granted on account of the wife, fixing the fiscal year in which the income tax is due, and the exclusion of taxpayers who are not included in the fixed fiscal year from the exemptions and deductions allowed.

Bay and a powerful bomb fell near a private house in Port Darwin but failed to explode.

"This shows that the English aviation attacks without discriminating its targets, seriously endangering the lives and property of the population they say they are defending," the communiqué said.

Argentine Defence Minister Amadeo Frugoli charged Britain with being two-faced, saying in a radio interview: "While diplomatic negotiations are intensified, Britain steps up its military action."

French support for Britain

On a visit to London, French President Francois Mitterrand met Mrs. Thatcher and reaffirmed his country's support for Britain in the dispute with Argentina. French officials said.

British officials welcomed the French stance. "France is extremely supportive of our position over the Falklands," a spokesman for Mrs. Thatcher said.

Mrs. Thatcher briefed Mr. Mitterrand on the U.N. negotiations on the Falklands over a working lunch at her Downing Street residence.



His Majesty King Hussein confers on Monday with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz (Petra Photo)

King Hussein receives message from Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has received a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein including an invitation to attend the Non-Aligned Movement, summit conference to be held in Baghdad in September.

The letter was delivered to King Hussein by Iraqi Revolutionary Council member and Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz at Al Hummar Palace on Monday. Mr. Aziz briefed the King on Iraq's current military position on the battlefield with Iran. They also reviewed the political situation in the Arab area and its repercussions on Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

King Hussein renewed Jordan's as well as the Arab support of Iraq in its just war to regain its national rights.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Mr. Aziz arrived in Amman Monday morning. He told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the aim of his visit to Amman is to convey an invitation from President Saddam Hussein to King Hussein to attend the seventh non-aligned summit conference in Baghdad. Iraq has already begun sending invitations to the heads of state and government to attend the summit, he said.

Mr. Aziz added that his visit to Amman is also part of the continuous consultations between the leaderships of the two countries, and that such consultations have become a firm tradition between the two countries.

The Iraqi minister said the political and military situation on the eastern flank of the Arab Homeland is "good," and that Iraq is "fully confident, despite all difficulties and threats," the battle against the Iranian aggression will be "victorious battle."

Mr. Aziz said Iraq has achieved victory by succeeding in protecting its territory, sovereignty and dignity against the evil of Iranian aggression. Iraq has the determination and resolution, with the support of the loyal citizens of the Arab Nation, to continue the battle until the Iranian enemy recognises "our sovereignty and dignity, refrains from intervening in our domestic affairs and abandons its aggressive and expansionist ambitions."

Mr. Aziz was met at Amman Airport by Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Acting Foreign Ministry Secretary General Walid Tash, the Iraqi ambassador in Amman and a number of officials.

Mr. Aziz left Amman for Saudi Arabia on Monday afternoon.

West Bankers favour PLO, Soviets

NEW YORK (R) — A poll of Palestinian residents of the Israeli-occupied West Bank published Monday indicates a large percentage of West Bank Arabs have nationalistic, pro-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and pro-Soviet views.

Time magazine commissioned the Pori Institute in Tel Aviv to conduct the poll in conjunction with sociologists from the Hebrew University.

According to the poll, 98 per cent of the residents favoured creation of a Palestinian state.

Eighty-six per cent said they wanted a Palestinian state run solely by the PLO. Fifty per cent believed PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat should lead the Palestinians.

However, 25 per cent of those polled said they wanted nothing to do with any of the PLO leaders mentioned.

Time said interviewing for the poll was done in Arabic by about 40 Palestinians who talked to 441

people living in 58 West Bank towns and refugee camps between April 4 and 15.

This was a period of uprising, with Palestinians angry over Israel's dismissal of several elected West Bank mayors. Then on April 11, an Israeli soldier went on a shooting rampage at Jerusalem's sacred Dome of the Rock in which two worshippers were killed and more than 30 injured.

Asked which country they admired more, 72 per cent of those polled chose the Soviet Union. Only two per cent chose the United States and 25 per cent said neither.

Asked which country had been most helpful to the Palestinian cause, 82 per cent named the Soviet Union, compared with 0.5 per cent choosing the United States.

Qadhafi most admired
Among Arab states, 33 per cent

preferred Syria and 29 per cent Libya. Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi was the most admired Arab leader with 40 per cent selecting him.

Asked about peace between Israel and the Palestinians, 71 per cent said it would never happen, while 25 per cent said it would happen some day. Seventy per cent said there were no Israelis they could trust and 29 per cent said there were.

Time said that when Israeli authorities learned of the poll they said it violated a law and two regulations which applied to the occupied West Bank. One pollster was arrested as a member of a "Palestinian Arab terrorist group" and some of his data was seized. Time said. This data was not used to tabulate results.

The magazine said it showed the completed results to the Israeli government, which decided not to prosecute Time or to comment at that time on the survey. (Editorial comment, page 4).

Gulf concern over Iran-Iraq war affects West's interests, Haig tells NATO ministers

LUXEMBOURG (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig told NATO ministers Monday that the continuing Iran-Iraq war has heightened security concerns among oil-producing Gulf states, with possible implications for Western interests.

Mr. Haig's private comments at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) meeting were described to reporters by a senior U.S. official, who said the United States still held to its position of neutrality in the 19-month-old war.

The official said Mr. Haig also cited tensions along Lebanon's border with Israel as another factor in what was described as a continuing volatile Middle East situation.

"The overall situation in the Gulf because of the Iran offensives have created greater uncertainty in the minds of the Gulf states—which in turn affects Western perceptions and interests," the official said.

Some of the Gulf states fear that the Iranian revolutionary fervour could jeopardise their security.

The United States several years ago organised a rapid deployment force to be able to intervene quickly in Gulf emergencies, but the official said he could not conceive of this military unit being dispatched under the present circumstances.

Early in the conflict between Iran and Iraq, the United States declared that it would not provide any military assistance to either side and would remain neutral.

Optimism on 'autonomy'

The official said NATO ministers also sought Mr. Haig's views on the U.S. approach to resolving Arab-Israeli disputes, notably over the question of "autonomy" for Palestinians living in Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

He said Mr. Haig made clear that the Reagan administration would pursue Palestinian "autonomy" within the framework of the Camp David agreement. Talks between Israel and Egypt on the issue have reached stalemate.

Mr. Haig's special Middle East emissary to the "autonomy" talks, Richard Fairbanks, was in Israel and Egypt last week seeking to resolve a dispute hinging on Egypt's refusal to accept an Israeli demand that some "autonomy" negotiating sessions be held in occupied Jerusalem.

U.S. officials said Mr. Haig received an optimistic report on the dispute from Mr. Fairbanks on Saturday in Athens, where the secretary of state made an overnight stopover, and expressed confidence that the problem could be "finessed."

The officials did not explain what they meant by finessing the problem, but Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin is expected to meet President Reagan when he visits the U.S. next month. The way could be cleared for a resumption of the "autonomy" talks.

Kaunda rules out restoring ties with Israel

Zambian president arrives Iraq

BEIRUT (R) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda arrived in Baghdad Monday from Kuwait on the second leg of a three-nation Gulf tour, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and high-ranking Iraqi officials met him at the airport, the agency said.

There was no word of what Dr. Kaunda would discuss in Baghdad but Zambia is a member of a non-aligned nations peace team

which has made several attempts to end the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Before leaving Kuwait, Dr. Kaunda promised that as a matter of principle Zambia would not restore relations with Israel. Nearly all member countries of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) broke off relations with Israel in 1973 during the Arab-Israeli war.

He made the promise in a television interview Sunday night

after talks with the emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. Sheikh Jaber had asked him to work with other African countries to maintain the African boycott of Israel, official sources said.

In his television interview, Dr. Kaunda said Zambia severed relations with Israel in 1973 "not because you as our brothers and friends requested it. We broke off as a principle because Israel occupies Arab lands. It occupies Jerusalem."

Israel aims to provoke retaliation from commandos, Palestinians say

By Dina Matar
Reuter

BEIRUT — Palestinian commandos are expecting further Israeli air attacks soon on their positions in Lebanon but say they do not believe a full-scale Israeli invasion is imminent.

A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official, who asked not to be named, said Monday he believed the Israelis would soon mount a small-scale air raid similar to those on April 21 and May 9.

He said they would be aimed at provoking the PLO into striking back at Israeli targets.

The official said he thought the Israelis wanted the commandos to retaliate in order to provide the justification for a sweeping assault on the PLO's estimated 20,000 men in Lebanon.

Expectations of a further Israeli air raid were raised Sunday when waves of Israeli planes flew low over Beirut and South Lebanon on what appeared to be an intensive reconnaissance mission.

Reports from Israel said the immediate possibility of an Israeli

invasion of Lebanon appeared to have receded after a weekend of intensive government consultations.

Israeli newspapers said the government, which massed troops on the Lebanese border last week, had decided to hold off any attack against PLO positions until the commandos struck.

But Palestinians say they fully expect Israel will launch a major attack when it feels the circumstances are right.

Syria, which has 30,000 troops stationed in Lebanon on peacekeeping duties, appears to share the Palestinians' view.

Palestinian sources said the Syrians had moved a new brigade of troops into the southern part of Lebanon's Bekaa Valley to reinforce Syrian positions there, about 30 kilometres from the Israeli border.

The PLO has been anxious not to be seen to be responsible for the final breakdown of a 10-month-old ceasefire with Israel and made only a low-key response to Israel's two air attacks over the last three weeks.

They did nothing after the first

raid despite calls for action from some of the more radical elements in the PLO.

They responded after the second by firing shells and rockets into northern Israel. But they caused no casualties and little damage and Palestinian sources said the gunners had probably been aiming to miss to avoid giving Israel any justification for further attacks into Lebanon.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's chief military aide, Khalil Al Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, said each new Israeli attack would require a separate PLO decision on a response.

He told the English-language weekly Monday Morning in an interview published Sunday: "Each new Israeli operation will be responded to separately, and the response may be limited or medium or more violent, depending on the objective of the Israeli attack, the prevailing circumstances and our ability to respond."

A Palestinian fighter in the shade of a tree on a hilltop overlooking Sidon said Sunday: "Our nerves are on edge, we are expecting anything any minute."

Secrecy enshrouds Indo-Chinese talks

NEW DELHI (R) — India and China began a second round of talks here Monday in a bid to resolve their 20-year-old border dispute.

The two negotiating teams first met in plenary session for an hour before splitting into four groups to discuss the border issue as well as relations in the fields of trade, science and technology and culture.

Officials declined to give any information on the initial discussions, merely noting they had been cordial.

The secrecy surrounding the talks, which follow a first round in Peking last December, reflects the complexity of the dispute which is seen as the key to improving Sino-Indian relations.

India and China fought a border war in 1962 over their rival claims to large areas of territory along the mountainous border and last December's first round of talks revealed that wide differences remained.

External Affairs Ministry Secretary Eric Gon-salves, who heads the Indian delegation, has said he

expects no immediate breakthrough in the discussions.

The Chinese team, under Peking Foreign Ministry Adviser Fu Hao, has said it prepared for many rounds of talks.

An Indian spokesman said progress on the border issue would also have an impact on other bilateral matters under discussion.

India claims that China has occupied 36,000 square kilometres of its territory in the distant and largely uninhabited Aksai Chin area of Ladakh and in the Pakistan-controlled area of the disputed state of Kashmir.

The Chinese claim nearly 129,000 square kilometres of territory in the sparsely-populated Arunachal Pradesh in northeastern India, some areas in northwestern India and pockets in between.

Sidon goes on strike to protest gunbattles

SIDON (R) — Shops, schools and businesses closed Monday as residents of this South Lebanese port went on strike in protest against fierce gunbattles between a local leftist group and Palestinian commandos.

Six people were killed and 13 injured in the battles between the Popular Nasserite Organisation, a Syrian-based leftist group, and Palestinians.

Rocket-propelled grenades and artillery shells used in the fighting set fire to 60 shops and buildings in the old quarter of the town, causing damage estimated at \$20 million.

Tension remained high Monday as merchants removed whatever they could salvage from their devastated shops. Civil defence units warned that more buildings hit by shellfire might collapse, state-run Beirut Radio said.

The clashes started when Palestinian commandos stormed the home of a leader of the Popular Nasserite Organisation on Saturday night and killed him along with four other people in the house.

A senior Palestinian official said the attack was in retaliation for the killing of a Palestinian at a Nasserite roadblock on Friday.

Europarlamentarians gather in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — European parliamentarians gathered for a meeting here Tuesday despite Arab protests.

The session of the European Council's political committee has split the 21-nation organisation because of its location.

Israeli officials said Spain, Greece, France, Denmark and Portugal decided not to attend the conference which will discuss issues ranging from the Middle East to the Falklands crisis.

The committee holds a meeting outside Europe once a year and Jerusalem was proposed last year by a parliamentary delegation from Israel which has observer status in the council.

The officials said strong Arab pressure had been applied to the council to refrain from holding the conference in the occupied city whose status as Israel's "eternal and indivisible capital" is disputed by the Arab World.

The conference is being held at the Knesset (parliament) and delegates will meet Israeli leaders including Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

NATIONAL

An era of change faces the construction industry in Jordan. Here Rami G. Khouri describes its economic and administrative background, the foreign competition, and the fact that a proliferation of qualified engineers often causes more problems than it solves. He analyses the industry's strengths and its weaknesses, including the certification procedure for contractors and problems of control over specification and materials.

SEVERAL converging factors since 1972 have induced a high growth rate in the contracting and construction industry in Jordan that shows no signs of slowing down within the coming years. Yet, the quantitative increase in construction and consulting work has not always been matched by a qualitative rise in the capabilities of Jordanian firms. Combined with the country's strong commitment to a free enterprise system that is open to foreign firms, this has brought Jordan to an important turning point in the development of its construction sector as a whole. In the next few years, Jordanian firms will either rally to the enormous challenge before them or see more and more work being awarded to foreign consultants and contractors.

A vivid debate continues to take place within the Jordanian construction business and among foreign firms and the several government agencies that are involved, most notably the Ministry of Public Works. Jordanians accuse the government of favouring foreign firms, while the government replies that most local contractors have shown that they have not yet developed the experience in such fields as bidding, budgeting and construction management to compete successfully against international firms. In practice, the construction business in Jordan is a wide open market. The government — by far the most important client in terms of the value of work awarded — follows a strict policy of awarding contracts to the lowest qualified bidder.

Overstretched resources
What has happened in the past decade, however, is that a sharp increase in construction business has overstretched the resources of the handful of large Jordanian companies that had dominated the contracting business in the early

"A vivid debate continues to take place within the Jordanian construction business and among foreign firms and the several government agencies that are involved, most notably the Ministry of Public Works. Jordanians accuse the government of favouring foreign firms, while the government replies that most local contractors have shown that they have not yet developed the experience in such fields as bidding, budgeting and construction management to compete successfully against international firms. In practice, the construction business in Jordan is a wide open market."

1970s. Some companies went bankrupt; others had to turn over their financial management to banks to avoid declaring bankruptcy; a few found themselves having to submit unrealistically low bids to secure the advance payments on new contracts in order to keep up their cash flow and prevent previous contracts from running out of operating capital. In some cases, contracts were terminated in midstream and rewarded to new contractors. In others, projects were delayed by as much as several years. There are still some projects that were started in the mid- or late-1970s that are still unfinished, due to disputes between contractors and clients.

The low point seems to have been reached, and there are clear signs now that all concerned parties wish to re-evaluate the construction business in order that Jordanian firms in this field could achieve their full potential, both at

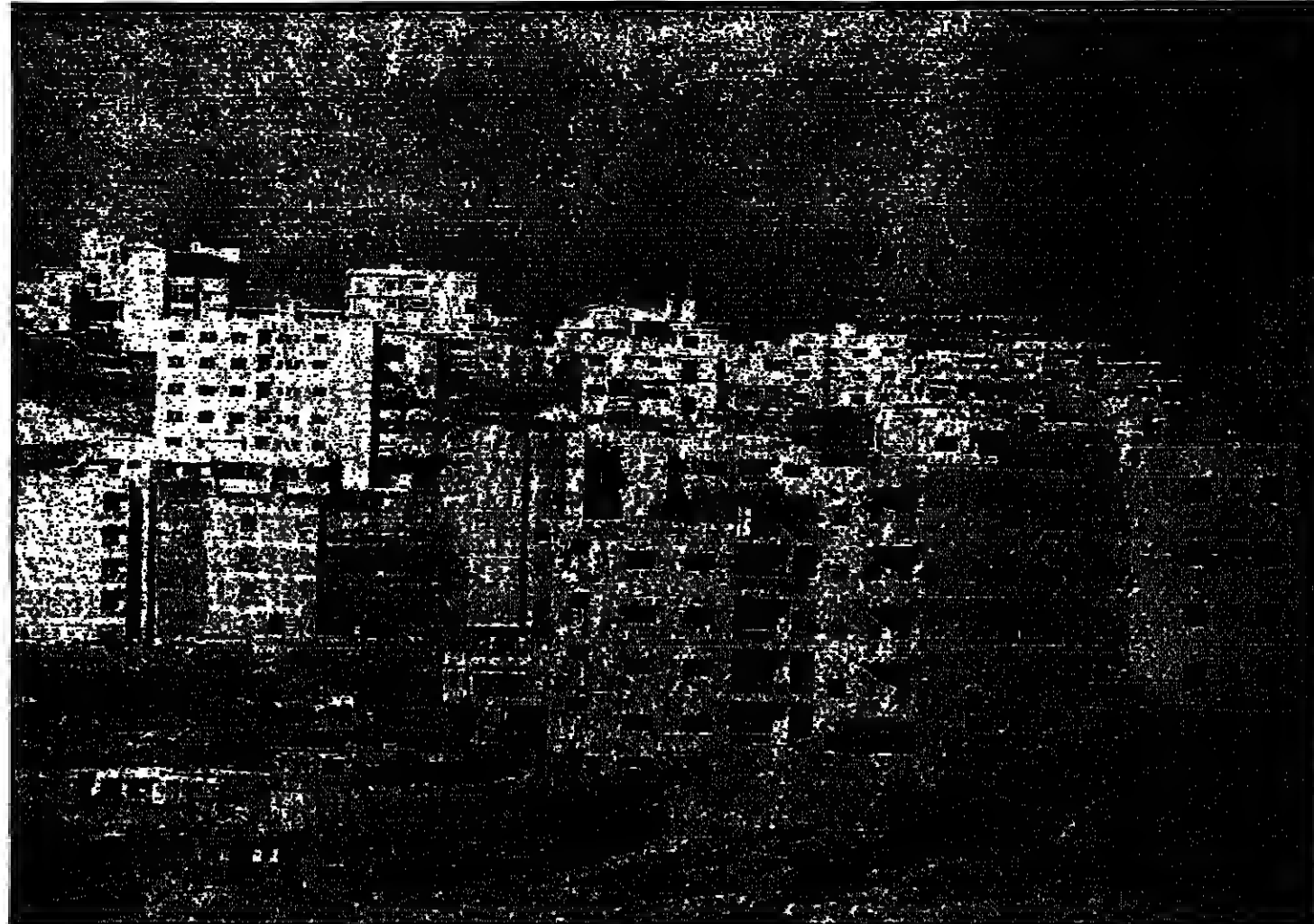
home and throughout the region. The new Jordanian five-year plan for 1981-85 includes investments totalling JD 3.3 billion (\$10 billion) at current prices a significant increase over the JD 1.22 billion (\$3.66 billion) spent during the last plan (1976-80). All the elements are potentially available locally for a major advance by the Jordanian construction business. There is no shortage of engineers, even though most are recent graduates. The local construction materials industry is flourishing, thereby eliminating much of the cost fluctuation and transport bottlenecks that plagued the building industry so badly during the 1974-80 period. Private sector demand for housing and small and medium-sized commercial projects remains high, complementing the government's demand for large schemes. Local financing is now readily, almost automatically, available for projects in the form of medium-term syndicated loans from banks in Jordan, at interest rates (10-12 per cent) significantly lower than those available for dollar financing in the Euromarkets. These elements, however, need to be woven together by the government and private sector construction companies in a manner that overcomes the problems of the past.

Identifying problems

These problems have most recently been identified through a series of seminars that were held during the past year, bringing together private sector and government personalities involved in the construction sector. Their deliberations contributed heavily to the proposals in the new plan on how to revive the fortunes of the Jordanian contracting sector. Among the problems that were identified as the most important were: only a few big contractors exist in Jordan, most of whom have serious administrative and financial problems; too many small firms with limited capabilities; a shortage of skilled workers; fluctuating prices of labour and material; deficiencies in the laws defining the roles and responsibilities of contractors and consultants; a variety of government clients with different contracts and specifications.

There is almost unanimous agreement among all parties concerned with the construction business in Jordan that stricter procedures need to be instituted all around. The classification and certification of consultants, contractors and subcontractors is probably the area where the greatest good could be achieved in the shortest period of time. The present system allows any individual who has graduated from an accredited engineering college anywhere in the world to register as a qualified engineer with the Engineers Association. After three years, the same person can be licensed to open his or her own engineering-consulting office. The result has been a fast proliferation of small engineering offices throughout the country, most of which are one-man shows. There are over 300 consulting offices registered with the Engineers Association, with a total of 8,200 individual engineers registered to work in the country. Public Works Minister Engineer Awni Masri suggests that these small firms could consolidate their manpower and experience and form no more than 15-20 medium- and large-size consulting offices, with a wide range of capabilities within each office (see accompanying interview). The handful of large, established Jordanian consultants can handle relatively complex jobs, but their experience beyond which they find it virtually impossible to move into the international class of design

work. The low point seems to have been reached, and there are clear signs now that all concerned parties wish to re-evaluate the construction business in order that Jordanian firms in this field could achieve their full potential, both at



Apartment houses rising throughout the Amman region (photo by Bill Lyons)

The construction industry: An era of challenge and change for Jordanians

By Rami G. Khouri

Limited scopes

This is partly due to the small size of most offices, and the fact that they are all competing for the same pool of human talent. A gifted engineer with a few years' experience with a consulting firm tends to break away and set up his own business. Therefore the very large, broadly based consulting offices typical of the Western world are unable to develop in Jordan under the present circumstances.

There is also the problem of clients not knowing what they really need from a consultant. For many small projects, such as

houses or commercial buildings, the client thinks of the consultant engineer only as someone to provide the permit drawings that are required by law to secure a construction permit from the municipality. Many clients then turn over the permit drawings to a contractor and ask him to build on the basis of those drawings, without bothering to have the consultant draw up more detailed working drawings. This brings up a whole series of problems after the work is completed, a trend which is compounded by the fact that specifications and materials are often vaguely defined in the permit drawings.

The contracting side of the business also suffers from the presence of hundreds of small contractors, only a few dozen of whom have substantial local experience. Anybody who meets a few modest government requirements for capital, equipment and staff can be classified as a contractor. The result is some 400 contractors working in Jordan today, many of whom entered the business recently as a means to invest surplus cash. The worst problem in the contracting sector is probably the submission of very low bids for government projects, at prices that are obviously below what is required to complete the

job properly. This is due mainly to inexperience on the part of the contractors in drawing up their bids and cost estimates, and, in part, to the vagueness of tender documents. It is not unusual to have a difference of up to 50 per cent among bids for the same project. This is also true for consultancy services for a hospital expansion and masterplanning scheme, bids from local consultants ranged from JD 59,000 to JD 552,000 (\$180,000 to \$1.6 million).

The certification procedure for contractors is also very modest. The Public Works Ministry clas-

sifies contractors for the purpose of bidding for government contracts on the basis of staff, capital, equipment and years of experience. However, the system can be abused by individuals who can show that they graduated from an engineering school 10 or 20 years ago, but may not actually have been working in the business all those years. Some Jordanians suggest that a better system would be to classify individual engineers and contractors, instead of classifying companies as such, by using a system of examinations at regular intervals. Others suggest applying a stricter prequalification procedure and stressing construction supervision more rigorously. The Public Works Ministry admits that it does not have sufficient trained staff to supervise the construction of all government projects and review all the reports and plans of its consultants.

The new five-year plan proposes a series of remedies to these existing problems: reconsideration of classification and prequalification of contractors and consultants; drawing up a standard contract for consultants and contractors; encouraging joint venture schemes with foreign companies; promoting larger consulting and contracting companies that would bring together many of the existing small firms; establishing an equipment rental company; standardising specifications for construction materials; completing the national building code; establishing a higher council for the construction sector; organising the banking sector to develop expertise in construction financing and to study the financing requirements of contractors; amending the Contractors Association law to give it more control over the performance of contractors; focusing more on the training of engineers in such fields as construction management and operations; and setting up an independent government corporation to handle the design, tendering and supervision of big projects commissioned by government agencies.

One short-term measure that has been taken already is the suspension by the Public Works Ministry of its previous rule of giving a contractor of 10 per cent down payment immediately upon the signing of a construction contract. The advance payment procedure, the government says, probably led some contractors to submit very low bids to win a new contract just to obtain the down payment for it, and thus maintain cash flow for existing works. The ministry now provides incentive advance payments during the life of a construction project, if it is clear that the work is proceeding on or ahead of schedule.

Regional opportunities

The sheer volume of work that will be offered to the construction industry in Jordan in the coming four years, until the end of the five-year plan in 1985, is unprecedented for what has been until recently a very small, isolated economy. Not only does the \$10 billion investment programme of that plan offer substantial new opportunities in Jordan; but some of the successful Jordanian contractors and consultants have recently been able to translate their successes in the country onto contracts in neighbouring markets, particularly in Iraq and the oil-producing states of the Arabian Peninsula. The willingness of Jordanian banks to move into the rest of the Arab World in tandem with contractors from Amman is further evidence of the regional opportunities that are available to a successful construction operation in Jordan.

In recent years, foreign contractors have taken the lion's share of the big construction projects in Jordan, such as the potash plant along the Dead Sea, the chemical fertiliser plant at Aqaba, irrigation, dams and housing works in the Jordan Valley, the expansion of Aqaba Port, the new Queen Alia International Airport south of Amman, the Rashidiya cement plant, and expansion of the Fubeis cement plant, to mention only the most prominent. Local contractors have won most of the small and medium-size projects, including housing, road and pipeline works throughout the country, commercial and office complexes, and individual home construction. An interesting new trend that has developed in the home-building market is the entry of private sector groups into the housing field. This has started to offer opportunities for the design and construction of integrated housing projects for low-, medium- and high-cost markets, to complement the low-cost housing schemes that have been traditionally undertaken by the state-owned Housing Corporation.

Among the most noteworthy new private housing works are the Alia Heights project being built by the state-owned air carrier Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, the several projects undertaken by REFCO company, and the complex being built by the Amman-based International Contracting and Investment Company. The Alia Heights project, 12 km south of Amman, includes 386 units costing a total of JD 6.5 million (\$20 million), which are bought by employees of the airline. The REFCO projects include flats and villas ranging in price from JD 8,000 (\$24,000) to JD 30,000 (\$90,000) in various parts of the Amman region. The company has built 953 units in the past four years.

New housing schemes

The International Contracting and Investment Company (ICICO), a public shareholding company, is building its first luxury housing scheme of 227 units in the Amman suburb of Khaldiya. The project is worth JD 10 million (\$30 million).

This kind of work has helped to broaden the scope of opportunities for Jordanian and foreign

"There is almost unanimous agreement among all parties concerned with the construction business in Jordan that stricter procedures need to be instituted all around. The classification and certification of consultants, contractors and subcontractors is probably the area where the greatest good could be achieved in the shortest period of time. The present system allows any individual who has graduated from an accredited engineering college anywhere in the world to register as a qualified engineer. After three years, the same person can be licensed to open his or her own engineering-consulting office."

construction firms, and has also started to fill in the gaps between the very large government schemes and small projects worth less than JD 1 million (\$3 million).

The best measure of the volume of construction activity in Jordan during the past decade, the Central Bank of Jordan's monthly count of building permits issued in the Amman and Zarqa regions, does not cover the entire country. But it is indicative of the degree of growth in construction, as the Amman-Zarqa region accounts for over 75 per cent of Jordan's residential, commercial and public works construction. The total number of permits issued for residential and commercial buildings in 1974 was 1,348, covering a built area of 359,000 m². In 1980, this had increased to 3,582 permits covering 1,306 million m² of construction. The pace of construction activity is also reflected in bank lending. In 1977, commercial banks had JD 65 million (\$195 million) in outstanding loans to the construction sector. By 1981, this had reached JD 201 million (\$603 million). The availability of local financing via syndicated loans and bond issues underwritten fully by banks in Jordan has come as a major spur to local industrial and hotel projects. The banking sector, with prodding and some special re-allocating facilities from the Central Bank of Jordan, has put together 16 different syndicated loans and bond issues during the past three years, for a total value of some JD 75 million (\$225 million). The most recent financing package was a pioneering loan-bond arrangement worth JD 15 million (\$45 million) to help finance the sixth kiln expansion project of the Jordan Cement Factories Company Ltd. portland cement plant at Fubeis, northwest of Amman.

Some of the major development projects that will be undertaken during the next five years include the first phase of Yarmouk University in north Jordan, Mifra University in the south, the new thermal power station at Aqaba, a four-lane highway from Aqaba to the Iraqi border, a shale oil-fuelled power plant at Qatranah, in central Jordan, the raising of King Talal Dam, and the new Maqarin Dam, along the Yarmouk River in north Jordan. The Maqarin Dam project awaits a political accord with Syria, and until its construction gets underway the Jordanian government is likely to start work on a pipeline to bring water to the country from the Euphrates River in Iraq, about 1,000 km away. Construction of a huge new phosphate mine at Shidiyah, in southeastern Jordan, may also get underway before 1985.

The above article is reprinted from the current issue of Middle East Construction which includes a special survey on construction in Jordan.

Masri: Restructuring needed

Following are excerpts from an interview by Rami Khouri with Jordanian Minister of Public Works Engineer Awni Al Masri:

Question: How does the labour situation in Jordan affect the contracting and construction sector as a whole? **Awni Masri:** The pool of local labour is not sufficient to cope with the size of the projects coming up in the new five-year plan. Even if we could attract back some of the Jordanians working in the oil states in the Gulf and North Africa, that would still be less than our needs, both of skilled and semi-skilled workers. We are tackling the problem in two ways. In the short term, we are meeting our need for labour by importing foreign workers. In the longer term, we are trying to restructure the secondary education system to increase the number of technicians and sub-professionals who graduate from polytechnics or vocational training schools or colleges, with a slightly lower number of secondary school graduates going on to do engineering degrees in universities. We think this trend will be encouraged by the fact that there are not enough local opportunities now for the thousands of newly graduated engineers in Jordan, and also by the rising pay scale for technicians and sub-professionals.

Q: There seems to be a problem with the government accepting the lowest bids of contractors for projects that are later unable to be completed at the bid price. How do you think this trend can be stopped?

AM: We have always believed in free competition in bidding for construction contracts and we feel that the problem would be solved by good, qualified contractors knowing how to

bid properly. We have no intention of changing the system of free competition in bidding. We do want to provide a means to study unreasonably low bids and prices, and advise the lowest bidder for a project if we think this price is, unusually low, but we do not think that we should simply exclude such bids from consideration.

We are also thinking about establishing a tenders department that would have the legal, financial and technical staff properly to supervise all aspects of contracts awarded by government agencies. The existing tenders committee cannot cope with the large amount of work that now exists. Such a department would alleviate some of the existing problems with bids that seem too low, but we are committed to our policy of accepting the lowest qualified bidder on any tender.

Q: What role do the professional organisations have in raising the general performance of the contracting and consulting professions? **AM:** They have a major role to play. The Engineers Association has the legal responsibility to register and classify all engineers and consultants in Jordan, and therefore they can do a great deal in this respect. The Construction Association, however, does not yet have such a major role to play, because classification of contractors is the responsibility of the Ministry of Public Works. We have submitted a new law to the cabinet for study which gives the Contractors Association some say in the principles and requirements of classifying contractors, as well as a role in following-up the work of contractors.

One of the big problems in the construction industry is the individualism of consultants



Awni Al Masri

and contractors. Many of the small offices should join forces and form real associations and groups with greater collective capabilities, resources and opportunities. There is some

optimism that things are starting to move in this direction. This is the only way, if the existing small firms want to exist, participate and impose themselves on the market.

All aspects of the construction industry in Jordan — contractors, consultants, clients, financing, the legal system, specifications and classification — should be looked into deeply to restudy and rearrange them so the local companies could become able to play a major role in the construction industry in Jordan. The government has decided to form a higher council of all parties involved in the construction sector in the country to study these questions and propose outlines of procedures to improve all aspects of construction industry. The council's by-laws are under pre-

paration now, and it should be formed within the coming few months.

Q: How extensive is this problem of individualism you mention?

AM: If you look at the number of local organisations in this sector, you'll see that we have about 300 consultants registered with the Engineers Association, with around 700 engineers working in these offices. These would only form 15-20 good, medium-size offices. We also have about 200 1st and 2nd class contractors registered at the ministry, and another 300 contractors of lower classes. Part of the problem we also have with engineering technology is that the increasing number of graduates in engineering fields cannot be absorbed into our market, and there are too many young graduates, compared with experienced engineers, to allow the young engineers to get proper on-the-job training from their more experienced colleagues. In 1981, the Engineers Association registered 1,350 new engineers, making a total of around 8,100. In 1975, there were 3,500 registered engineers in the Association. This means that more than 50 per cent of Jordanian engineers have less than five years' experience. A related problem is that there are relatively fewer specialists among the new engineers, and shortages in some fields and the needs in engineering professionals. We feel there is a deficiency in basic specialties among our engineers, for example in such fields as architecture, highway and bridge design, or construction administration and programming. Therefore, we have the paradox of too many engineers in Jordan, but a lack of experienced and specialised engineers.

مجلس الاعمال



His Majesty King Hussein presents certificates and awards to excelling students at the graduation ceremony of the Royal Guards

Hussein attends guards graduation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, was patron on Monday morning to the graduation ceremony of the security course of the Royal Guards.

The graduation ceremony included various applications and shooting exercises using various capons by the participants, who proved their high efficiency in training.

At the end of the ceremony, King Hussein handed over the certificates to the graduates and the awards to the excelling students.

King Hussein was received at the graduation site by Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and high-ranking civilian and military officials. His Highness Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad attended the ceremony in the company of King Hussein.

University president calls for trust between farmers, agriculture experts

AMMAN (Petra) — The lack of confidence between the farmer and the agricultural specialist is the major impediment facing the growth of agriculture in Jordan. With these words, University of Jordan President Dr. Abdul alam Al Majali, deputising for his Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan opened the activities of a seminar on planting rain-fed fields in the Faculty of Agriculture on Monday. Dr. Majali called for building bridges of trust between the two parties to the problem in order to develop and improve agriculture and to bring about food security in Jordan. Dr. Majali also warned against the danger of the horizontal expansion of buildings at the expense of farming lands, calling for investing funds to import major foodstuffs in developing the agricultural sector

and other development areas.

He explained that farmers are selling their lands due to the increase in the price of land and called on the concerned government departments to confront this problem which has a strong negative influence on agricultural production and on the national economy as a whole.

Dr. Marwan Kamal, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture also delivered a speech in which he said that the area of exploited farming land in Jordan amounts to 5.3 million dunams, and pointed to the imbalance existing between rain-fed and well-water irrigated farming in the previous development plan, explaining that the current development plan has dealt with this problem by increasing funds allocated for investing in well-water irrigated farming.

Dr. Kamal added that resorting to rain-fed farming requires dealing with traditional farming methods which do not encourage exploiting modern technological means, saying that the development of rain-fed farming faces natural obstacles like unpredictable rain and the smallness of the fields owned by farmers.

Participants in the seminar discussed 10 papers dealing with the general situation of the main rain-fed agricultural products in Jordan, the influence of farming times on production, programmes for rain-fed farming and other subjects.

The seminar was attended by a number of specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture and local establishments, and a number of professors working at the Faculty of Agriculture.

Queen visits civil aviation institute



AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor visited on Monday the Queen Noor Civil Aviation Institute. Queen Noor heard an explanation from Civil Aviation Director-General Sharif Ghazi Raikan and he directed of the institute on the plans and achievements of the institute in the field of training

Sharif calls for eliminating Israeli nuclear threat at Moscow meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Kamil Al Sharif returned to Amman from Moscow on Monday after attending the international religious conference devoted to save mankind from a nuclear catastrophe. The conference concluded its meetings in Moscow on May 14. Mr. Sharif said in his speech to the conference that the Zionist practices against holy places in the occupied Arab territories, particularly the recent attack on Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock in Jerusalem, is a link in a series of acts of aggression which began in 1967 with the beginning of the Israeli occupation.

Mr. Sharif asserted in his speech that Islamic heritage and doctrine are tolerant and based on the fraternity of mankind. This has provided the climate for other religions and civilisations to flourish. "However, the Zionist colonisation of Palestine is plotting against the whole area, charging it with malice and hatred, and threatening world peace and security," he said.

"Zionism has misinterpreted the Jewish religion, which we

respect and never, in an evil way based on fanaticism, barbarism and contempt for the religions of others and their legitimate national aspirations. The most evident example of this is what currently takes place in Palestine, particularly in Holy Jerusalem, the centre of the divine religions in the world," Mr. Sharif told the conference.

Mr. Sharif added that it is regrettable that every time the United Nations tries to perform its duty in protecting the holy places and stopping Israeli aggression, the United States uses the veto as if it is encouraging Israel to continue their aggressive acts."

Mr. Sharif said all indicators point out that Israel "now possesses nuclear weapons with the encouragement and cooperation of certain Western countries. Israel seeks to monopolize its terrible weapon to impose its aggressive policy on the Arabs, which is why it carried out its criminal aggression against the Iraqi atomic reactor in June 1981. Israeli leaders continuously threaten to prevent the Arab

countries from possessing arms for legitimate self-defence and for liberating their usurped lands."

"Therefore, while we support the idea of nuclear disarmament in the world and liberating man from the terror caused by the presence of these weapons we call for encouraging the armament of the Arab and Muslim countries at present in order to achieve a state of balance with Israel so that Israel might realise that it cannot continue its occupation of Arab Palestine and impose its will on the area through nuclear terror," Mr. Sharif said.

The minister explained that proceeding from this, we hope to "build firm relations between the Islamic countries and the Soviet Union on the basis declared by the Soviet Union—mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs as well as the right of peoples to self-determination." "We regard this relationship as essential if we were to truly confront the trends of colonialism and international Zionism as one strong and cohesive front," Mr. Sharif concluded.

Amman International Fair complex to be built soon

AMMAN (Petra) — Work on the construction of the Amman International Fair will begin late this year on a 44-hectare area of land which will be allocated to international commercial and industrial exhibition, conferences and cultural meetings.

The fair will include eight halls, each with an area of 3,000 square metres attached to one another, the general-management building which will be supplied with telecommunications facilities, a restaurant, a press hall, and a complex containing banks, travel agents, shops, and a zoo. The fair will also include a hall for exhibiting the cultural achievements in Jordan, a centre for conferences consisting of two halls, one capable of accommodating 1,000 persons and the other 500, a cultural centre, a hall for discussions capable of accommodating 250 persons, and a 91-room hotel.

Project designers headed by two British enterprises will be in charge of designing the exhibition and regulating its management.

Seminar continues on Jordanian Construction Code

AMMAN (Petra) — The seminar on building specifications and the Jordanian Construction Code organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in cooperation with the European Economic Community (EEC) mission in Amman, continued its meetings at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman.

Participants in today's session discussed six working papers on the general technical specifications for buildings in Jordan, the problems resulting from the lack of specifications and building code in the Arab World, control of the quality of building in Britain, and the code of concrete in Iraq which is currently being drafted.

One hundred engineers from the public and private sectors in Jordan, 10 engineers from other Arab countries, and 10 EEC experts are participating in the four-day seminar.

ACDIMA to produce funnels at rate of 100m annually

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company and an Omani delegation, currently visiting Jordan, signed an agreement on Monday to establish a plant for producing disposable plastic funnels at a capacity of some 60 to 100 million per year.

The Arab Pharmaceutical company, ACDIMA, affiliated with the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), will participate in the plant's capital by 25 per cent, and the government of Oman by 35 per cent, and the rest of the shares will be offered for public subscription in the Sultanate of Oman and the Arab Gulf countries. The capital of the plant has not been fixed yet.

Director General of the Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company Hashem Ismail Al Taher said a joint technical and managerial working team has been set up to run the project. The general management will include representatives from ACDIMA and the government of Oman. There is a possibility that the plant might be expanded to produce other products besides plastic funnels, Dr. Taher said.

Syrian-Jordanian company net profits reach JD 104,000

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the Syrian-Jordanian Maritime Company decided in a meeting held in Damascus on Sunday to approve its general budget for 1981 and the profit and loss accounts. Profits allocated for distribution to shareholders totalled some JD 80,000, after deducting some JD 36,000 to cover the mandatory and voluntary reserves. Net profits of the company totalled some JD 104,000.

The general assembly also decided to approve the recommendations submitted by the company's board of directors related to the management of the company and planning for its future expansion.

The company currently owns two ships and operates its lines to all major European ports.

Central Bank bans dealing with roll-over list companies

AMMAN (Petra) — The Central Bank governor has sent a memorandum to the banks and licensed money changers requesting them to refrain from selling or issuing any cheques or money transfer bills in foreign currency to the roll-over list companies such as Hallo, Goodluck and similar companies operating in the same field.

The memorandum states that any violation of these instructions would compel the Central Bank to impose the penalties stipulated in the law governing foreign exchange controls as well as the law governing the activities of the money changers. He said the aim of this measure is to protect the national economy and the foreign currency reserves in the country.

Hassan condoles Qasem family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan deputised National Consultative Council (NCC) member Mihjem Al Khraishe to convey the condolences of His Highness to Al Qasem family on the death of Mrs. Khairah Sidqi Al Qasem.

Irbid celebrates Isra', Mi'raj

IRBID (Petra) — The Islamic centre in Irbid organised a religious seminar on Monday at the Yarmouk University auditorium on the anniversary of Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey to Jerusalem and ascension, to heaven (*Isra' wal Mi'raj*). Participants called for upholding Islamic values and faith to cope with the dangers facing the nation.

Meanwhile, Director of Islamic Guidance at the Awqaf Ministry Abdul Halim Al Ramahi discussed with Zaqra Awqaf Director Khalil Al Batayneh, when he visited Zaqra on Monday, matters related to the progress of religious teachings and Islamic education in the district. He also met with the preachers and heard their needs and requests. The Zaqra Awqaf directorate has prepared a programme for celebrating *Isra'* which will coincide on Thursday.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibition

* Paintings by Basem S. Jawad, at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

Film

* *Falsche Bewegung*, colour film subtitled in English, at the Goethe Institute at 8 p.m.

Lecture

* Dr. Linda Jacobs will speak about the results of her survey in Wadi Aisal, at the American Centre of Oriental Research at 6:30 p.m.

International direct dial telephone system to be finished by November

AMMAN (Petra) — Telecommunications Corporation Director-general Mohammad Shabed Ismail said on Monday that the international direct dial telephone exchange project, delayed due to circumstances beyond control, will be operated in November, 1982, adding that the corporation has reached suitable solutions to enable the citizens to have direct telephone contact very soon, both in and outside Jordan.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Mr. Ismail explained that the direct dial international system was supposed to operate in August 1981, but due to some internal difficulties and administrative changes faced by the French company the operation was delayed.

He added that the company will have to pay a fine of JD 250 on each day of delay.

He explained that the French government, which finances the project under the Jordanian-French financial protocol, requested a period of grace for the French company until Dec. 31, 1981 without the corporation losing the right to impose the fine. He added that the corporation, in return, imposed on the French company to install and operate, free of charge, a temporary "pony" international telephone exchange of one direction. The company installed the exchange and linked it with the French international exchange upon the approval of the French administration.

Mr. Ismail went on to say that

after the nationalisation of the French company, an agreement was reached with the French administration to ship the equipment and to begin installation work in May in order to hand over the operating exchange in November. The French administration has also agreed to give the corporation a free national direct contact exchange towards the end of 1982. He said that the corporation has tendered bids for buying another international exchange and a second national exchange.

Mr. Ismail left Amman for Paris on Monday to complete talks with the French side on the national exchange and the new national exchange which will be carried out by a consortium of French companies.

Financial market to be quoted internationally "second by second"

By Suzanne Zu'mut-Black
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With the letters ASE for its code, Jordan joined the international financial community when it officially linked with the Reuters computer system on Tuesday morning at the Amman Financial market (AFM) headquarters. Prices of the 80 listed Jordanian companies will now be quoted and transmitted live from the floor of operations second by second," AFM Chairman and General-Manager Hashem Sabbagh told the Jordan Times.

At the end of each day, there will be transmission of each transaction conducted to all participants in the Reuter system around the world. At the same time, the system will also show the list of prices as statistics, including the lowest and highest as well as the closing and opening quotations. It will also include the volume of traded shares in each company and an accumulation of the volume of traded shares for all the companies. In addition, the Reuter system will show any major news concerning the secondary market, such as stock-split, stock-dividend or any other major event at any of these listed companies, as well as distributing information about the primary

market, i.e. new issues of bonds or shares.

"This means that the system will show any public offering in shares or bonds that are available in the Jordan financial market," Dr. Sabbagh commented.

This link provides instantaneous contact with the investor and conveys share prices to any recipient who is interested in the market quotation. These change from minute to minute. It is of the utmost importance for the investor to know on the spot the prices of each stock in his portfolio so that he could add, diversify, sell or buy immediately through his knowledge of price trends on the market.

The Reuter system has now officially started to distribute quotations of the AFM to the Reuter's financial subscribers around the world. Several thousand subscribers, mostly banks and financial institutions in 64 countries are connected to the system. Participants in the Middle East include Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

"Subscribers, especially in the Middle East, are very interested in receiving the AFM rates," Reuters Manager in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon Jean Felix Chaumeret told the Jordan Times. "And there

is no reason why countries like Britain, the United States and Switzerland shouldn't be interested too."

The main advantage of the system, according to Mr. Chaumeret, is that it can give "real time information" and that the quotation on the screen can be read "on the second" by somebody in London or in Kuwait. "With this system information reaches people who receive the other big financial information," he said.

The Reuters official finds it interesting that this installation is part of a process by which "we start to distribute information from the Middle East to the rest of the world. This contrasts with the flow of information in the past when it was largely into the Middle East from other parts of the world. Now the Middle East is not only on the receiving end but also contributing."

With this, Dr. Sabbagh agreed vehemently and added "We are not just recipients but we are also showing the world that we have a developed and sophisticated financial system." He pointed out that AFM, which officially started operations in January 1, 1978, is part of the whole financial spectrum of Jordan and of the Arab World.

Electrification of Karak begins

KARAK (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has electrified Al Jadideh village in Karak governorate by installing a transformer at a 100 kilowatt-ampere capacity and four-kilometre long high-tension lines.

The JEA has also completed the installation of the high-tension lines in the southern Jordan Valley area and this includes Al Mazra'ah, Al Hadithah and Al Safi areas.

Karak area electricity director Hamid Al Nabateh said the JEA has begun installing low-tension networks in Ghor Al Safi and called on citizens to refer to the Jordan Valley Authority office in Ghor Al Safi to obtain a permit to install metres to electricity their houses.

High-tension networks have also been installed for the villages of Al Taybeh, Hajra, and Majra. The networks are 12 kilometres long. These works are part of the second phase for electrifying the 39 Karak governorate villages at a cost of some JD 2 million, he said.

Today's weather

There will be a drop in temperature with low and medium clouds and scattered showers, especially in the northern part of the country. Winds will be westerly moderate gusting at times. In Aqaba, dusty and partly cloudy weather. Winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	14	30
Aqaba	18	36
Deserts	17	35
Jordan Valley	17	32

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 36 per cent, Aqaba 24 per cent.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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REFCO, one of Jordan's most innovative and fastest growing companies is expanding its marketing organisation. It is seeking a small number of well qualified, energetic people with experience in some field of marketing, ideally that of financial services. Apart from the experience you must be able to persuade us that you are concerned with customers service and are more than capable of managing the immediate needs whilst thinking creatively about future opportunities. If you meet these requirements, and are probably between 25 and 35 years old, comfortable in English and Arabic, please write and tell us why you are one of the key people we seek.

Correspondence in English to A. Havers,
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NATO summit to renew allegiance to defence, dialogue and disarmament

By Paul Taylor
Reuter

BONN — NATO leaders meeting here for a rare summit on June 10 will pledge renewed allegiance to the Western alliance's triple doctrine of defence, dialogue and disarmament, senior Bonn officials say.

Like most summits, the real work is being done in advance. Officials are already drafting a declaration which the assembled leaders will formally endorse during a brief closed session in Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's hup-proof conference suite.

With Spain's membership likely to be endorsed in time for the summit, 16 government chiefs are expected here for a 24-hour stay. Their private meeting lasts only about 90 minutes, giving each leader an average five-and-a-half minutes to speak.

Outside the conference chamber, President Reagan and his fellow NATO leaders will dine

in pomp in the gloomy foyer of the Bundestag (parliament). Lunch at Mr. Schmidt's shungalow and listen to formal speeches in the Bundestag chamber.

West Germany made clear in March what it expects from the summit, issuing a set of security policy guidelines which it hopes will influence NATO leaders.

They are based on a 1967 NATO report by then-Belgian Foreign Minister Pierre Harmel that coupled adequate defence measures with readiness for dialogue and cooperation with the Soviet Union and its Warsaw pact allies.

Emphasis on disarmament

But Bonn wants the summit to give emphasis to the third dimension of the West's doctrine, disarmament and arms control, which has emerged in the intervening years.

Officials expect President

Reagan to spell out new U.S. proposals for Strategic Arms Reduction (START) Talks with Moscow in a speech to the Bundestag on the eve of the summit.

An interim White House statement on START is likely this month, they said.

But they do not expect him to name a date for the talks, since this has not yet been agreed through diplomatic channels and the Kremlin would probably reject any date announced in Bonn without prior agreement.

Mr. Reagan's speech, which Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will discuss with Secretary of State Alexander Haig in Luxembourg this month, will set the tone for the NATO meeting. "Whatever Reagan says will be fulsomely praised in the communiqué the next day," one source close to the preparations said.

The final declaration would stress the need to maintain, and in some areas restore, a military bal-

ance with the Warsaw pact. But it would avoid alliance wrangles over whether this required a three or four per cent real increase in military spending.

By the time Western leaders gather here, U.S.-Soviet talks on curbing nuclear missiles in Europe will have resumed in Geneva and the West will have made new proposals at the marathon Vienna talks on reducing conventional forces, officials say.

Despite vast security precautions—Mr. Reagan's bodyguard alone will number up to 150 men—the government does not fear any violence during the summit.

Organisers expect some 150,000 peace movement demonstrators to rally on the other side of the Rhine to demand an end to NATO nuclear rearmament plans. The protest coincides with the brief closing summit session but NATO leaders are unlikely either to see or bear it.

Officials are less relaxed about the chance of violence when Mr. Reagan visits West Berlin the next day. "Things are different in Berlin and trouble can't be ruled out," one official said.

The summit is causing headaches for Bonn's security chiefs and protocol officials. Plans to hold the festive banquet at a castle outside Bonn were vetoed on security grounds.

All leaders except President Reagan will sleep in embassy residences. Mr. Reagan is likely to stay at the medieval Gymnich castle outside Bonn where Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev stayed during a visit here last November.

Only French President Francois Mitterrand does not need to worry about a bed for the night. To underline France's special position outside the military wing of NATO, he will fly home after the dinner, leaving Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy to attend the summit.

Say it ain't so, Ron

A TIME MAGAZINE poll of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, published this week, should cause Ronald Reagan to lose sleep—if not to fall off his horse. The poll showed that the vast majority of Palestinians in the West Bank has pro-Soviet views and wants an independent Palestinian state run by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). These facts have been long known, but the preachers and political hucksters of the West have always preferred to ignore this reality. Israelis have also tried to ignore the reality of Palestinian nationalism, as we have seen most recently in the pitiful performance of dream merchant Menachem Begin, who still insists that the PLO can be cut down to size in the West Bank and Gaza.

The results of the poll indicate clearly that a trend towards radicalism and extremism has been the dominant political reality in the area for the past decade. It is, we suggest yet again, simply a reaction to the

American-Israeli policy of ignoring the PLO and refusing to admit that Palestinian national rights can only be satisfied by the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state living alongside Israel.

Mr. Reagan (and Mr. Carter and Mr. Ford and Mr. Nixon and so many others before them) should realise that their head-in-the-sand policies in the region are only fostering the kind of extremism and pro-Soviet tendencies that they claim to fear. While the Reagan-Begin team wants to "protect" the region from the Russians, its policies are working in precisely the opposite direction by pushing the Palestinians and other Arabs into the arms of the Soviet Union. Isn't that the stupidest thing you've ever heard? Why, on a clear night, you can stand on Mount Nebo and actually feel the stupidity coming in from Washington and Tel Aviv — and, if you listen carefully, you can hear them laughing in Moscow.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The remaining open door

AL RA'I: Israel continues in military preparations to invade southern Lebanon. This time observers notice that planning for the expected aggression is taking place in the open. The Israelis are getting ready without fearing neither the results of the aggression nor the reactions it will have at Arab and international levels.

This means that Israel finds the current Arab and international atmosphere appropriate for launching its attack against the Palestinian and the Lebanese peoples. It appears that Israel does not fear paying the price in human and material losses, or the moral loss that might affect its reputation internationally. Israel seems to be assured of what it is concocting against southern Lebanon will be carried out without any obstacles to achieve all its aggressive goals.

The secret behind this Israeli confidence lies in the weak and inactive Arab stand which threatens the future of all Arabs. The Arab military weakness paralyses the Arab Nation's ability to support the Palestinian resistance and protect Lebanon. This same weakness has led to the dismemberment of the nation's political and economic capabilities and to the absence of any sort of interest on the part of the international powers to stand by the Arab Nation and support its just causes.

Therefore, the remaining door left open to the Arab Nation to be able to confront the devilish Zionist schemes is to unite efforts, establish solidarity and build Arab strength. This is the only way the Arabs can free the nation, protect it and regain its usurped rights.

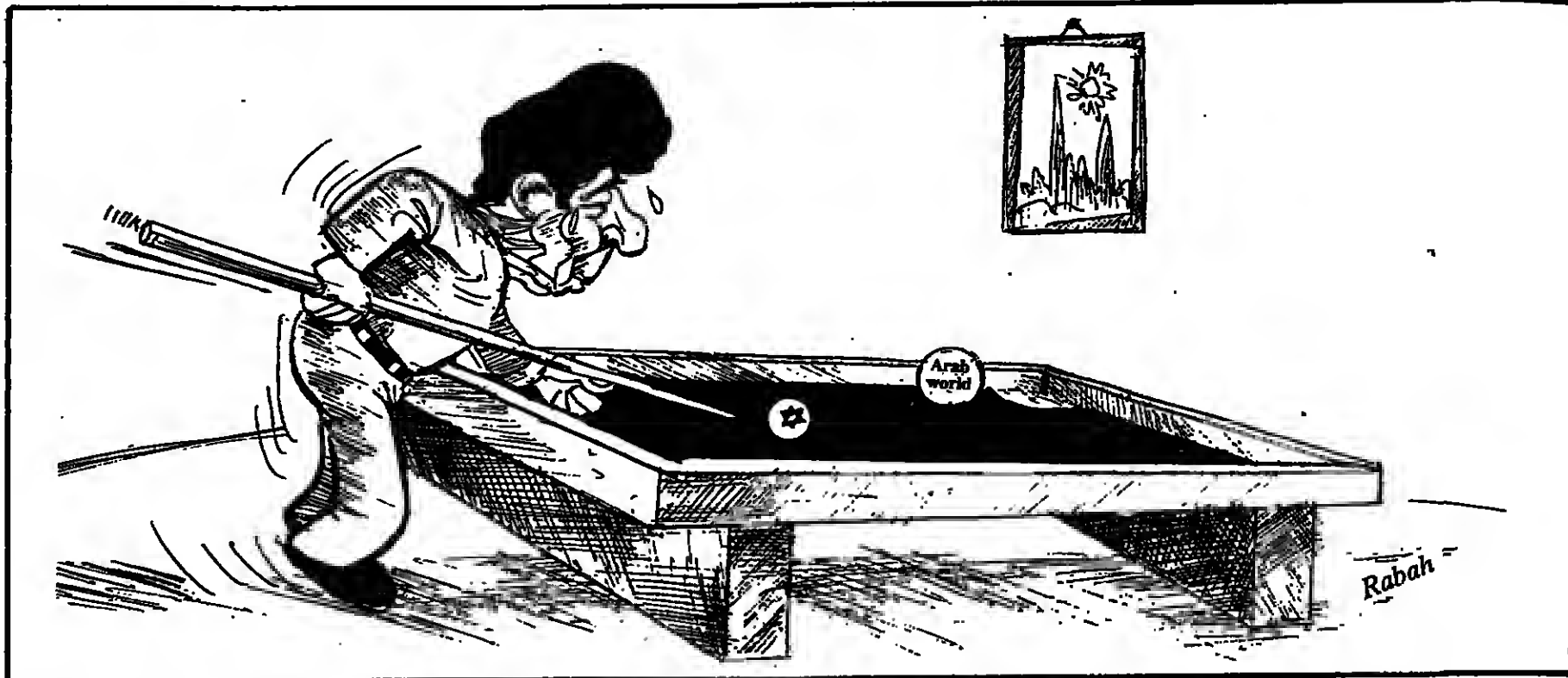
What arrogance!

AL DUSTOUR: The Israeli officials are pouring their fury at what they call the Palestinian explanation of the cease-fire agreement along the borders of southern Lebanon. Israel wants to make this agreement appear as if it were a final peace agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should stop fighting, not only along the border but everywhere throughout the world.

We still remember the Israeli threats against the PLO. Israel accused the PLO of violating the cease-fire agreement when an Israeli diplomat was assassinated in Paris by someone who did not belong to the Palestinian resistance. What arrogance! Israel is the one who should stop killing the Palestinian people, the unarmed people who have risen against Israeli occupation and criminal practices. But Israel wants to have a free hand to oppress the Palestinian people, to evict them from their lands and to practice all sorts of terrorism without the PLO raising a finger against such barbaric activities.

The flagrant paradox here is that Israel considers the Palestinian legitimate actions as a violation of the cease-fire agreement when it does not consider its criminal and inhuman practices against the Palestinian people, their destiny and Arab character a violation of the cease-fire agreement. Israel is just seeking excuses to violate the agreement.

Therefore, the Israeli military concentrations along the Lebanese borders speaks of the aggressive essence of the Zionist theory on which the Israeli entity was founded.



When Brezhnev leaves, continuity will guide U.S.-Soviet relations

By Jeffrey Antevil
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Fresh speculation about a U.S.-Soviet summit has forced the Reagan administration to consider the mortality of the Kremlin's ageing leadership and its implications for American foreign policy.

While keeping the door open for full-scale talks between President Reagan and President Leonid Brezhnev in a neutral European country this autumn, the U.S. is still proposing a meeting in June at the United Nations.

President Reagan last week repeated a proposal that he meet Mr. Brezhnev at next month's U.N. special disarmament session in New York but said that if the Soviet president could not come to the U.S. he hoped they could arrange a full-scale summit later. The proposal for a meeting next month has twice been rejected by

Moscow, which says more time is needed for preparations.

U.S. officials believe a more important reason for the turnaround, which Moscow does not mention, is the state of Mr. Brezhnev's health. The Soviet leader is 75.

Privately, officials concede that no one in Washington believes Mr. Brezhnev could make the tiring Transatlantic trip.

While the White House focuses on public opinion gains to be made from Mr. Brezhnev's falling health, other officials seem for the first time to be considering the implications for arms control and other policy issues.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig has the clearest hint in a speech on April 27, just a few days before the latest exchange with Moscow over a possible summit.

In what was billed as a major address, he noted that a new generation of Soviet leaders was

emerging and that U.S. policies could influence them in the direction of greater restraint.

The Soviet Union was likely to face major economic problems and growing international isolation as it "experiences a transition in leadership," Mr. Haig said. "And as a new generation of Soviet leaders emerges, we can signal the benefits of greater restraint."

To do this, Mr. Haig said, the United States must avoid two extremes — over-reliance on negotiations with Moscow without a buildup in U.S. strength, and on the other hand all-out confrontation while shunning the bargaining table.

While Mr. Haig did not spell it out, another official said the Secretary of State in fact believed the transition to a new leadership was already under way.

Like most U.S. Kremlin-watchers, Mr. Haig has no firm

idea who the next Soviet leader will be, the official said, but he thinks Mr. Brezhnev is a relative "dove" in the Soviet spectrum and his successor may be more hawkish.

In his speech, Mr. Haig called the transition a "historic opportunity" for the United States to influence Soviet policy. But there has been little sign this has been an issue so far affecting U.S. policies, especially on nuclear arms control.

By contrast, similar perceptions in 1979 about Mr. Brezhnev's poor health and relative dovishness produced a sense of urgency in the Carter administration about the need to conclude the SALT II strategic arms limitation treaty.

There is no comparable urgency in the Reagan administration, informed sources said.

It has still to begin strategic

arms talks despite an election campaign pledge by Mr. Reagan that "as president, I will immediately open negotiations on a SALT III treaty."

The possibility that Mr. Brezhnev may soon leave office to be succeeded by a tougher leader or by a period of stalemate while potential claimants manoeuvre for power has had no real effect on administration policy-making, the sources said.

They said this was true of such questions as whether to negotiate with Moscow on nuclear arms, Afghanistan and Poland and how tough a line Washington should take in general.

The sources said the administration believed it should project an image of continuity rather than vacillation in its dealings with Moscow while making it clear the U.S. was open to better relations, provided the Soviet Union respected U.S. concerns and interests around the world.

JORDAN TIMES

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30 Koran
5:40 News in French
6:15 Cartoons
6:40 Children's Programme
7:15 Local Programme
7:25 Local Programme
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic Series
9:40 Islamic Series
10:15 Arabic Series
11:00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Medical Report
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Benson
9:10 Dark Room
10:00 News in Arabic
10:15 Bestseller:
The Golden Woman

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
10:00 News Headlines
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 Sign off
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
14:30 Country Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:03 Instruments
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Science Report
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Top Twenty
18:30 Top Twenty
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Instruments
20:00 Evening Show

21:00 News Summary

21:03 Evening Show
22:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT

04:00 Newslet 04:30 The Art of Julian
04:45 Financial News 04:55
05:00 World News 05:24 News
05:30 World News 05:30 The World
05:45 News Summary 06:00 Newslet
06:30 Givira Humford 07:00 World
07:30 World of Wind and Brass 07:45
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VOICE OF AMERICA

03:00 Daybreak 04:00 The Breakfast
Show 15:00 News Roundup: Reports,
opinions, analyses 15:30 voa magazine:

American, science, culture, letters

16:00 Special English News 16:10
Special English Science and technology
16:15 Feature: Science in the News
16:30 New Music USA 17:00 News
Roundup 17:30 Dateline 18:00 Special
English: news feature "The Making of
a Nation" 18:30 New Music USA 19:00
News Roundup: reports, opinions, anal-
yses 19:30 VOA Magazine 20:00 Special
English: news 20:15 Music USA
(Jazz) 21:00 VOA World Report

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals
and departures are provided to the
Jordan Times by the Air Information
Department at Amman Airport, Tel.
92105-6. They should always be verified
by phone before the arrival or departure
of the flight.

ARRIVALS

5:30 Cairo (EA)
6:55 Agaba
9:00 Cairo
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Ohadran
9:45 Kuwait
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
10:15 Beirut
11:10 Riyadh (SV)
12:35 Cairo (EA)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:45 Copenhagen, Athens (SK)
17:00 Frankfurt, Geneva
17:15 New York, Amsterdam
17:30 Cairo (EA)
17:30 London, Paris
18:00 Cairo
18:05 Rome (Alitalia)
18:55 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
19:30 Rome
19:30 Tripoli
19:50 Frankfurt (LH)
20:30 Beirut (MEA)
20:50 Damascus
22:00 Baghdad
22:30 Baghdad
24:00 Cairo (EA)
00:20 Ankara
00:30 Baghdad
00:35 Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

3:30 Cairo
5:15 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
6:35 Cairo (EA)
6:45 Beirut
7:00 Agaba
9:00 Beirut (MEA)
9:40 London (BA)
9:45 Athens, Amsterdam (KLM)
10:30 Rome
10:45 Tripoli
11:30 Cairo
11:35 Tunis, Copenhagen
12:00 Istanbul, London
12:30 Athens, Copenhagen
12:30 Riyadh (SV)
13:30 Cairo
13:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:30 Kuwait (EA)
18:30 Baghdad
18:30 Cairo (EA)
19:00 Kuwait
19:15 Dhahran
19:50 Abu Dhabi
20:00 Damascus
20:00 Cairo
20:15 Baghdad
21:00 Bangkok
21:15 Oubai, Moscow
21:45 Cairo (EA)
23:30 Cairo

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Amman:
Amin Abdul Jabbar 24222/367/7
Yahya Al Hajjir (Al Wadiah)

Zargat:
Farah Al Iqbalawi 81923
Azzam Al Madani 85238

Irbid:
Nayef Gharyabeh 2260/3634

PHARMACIES:
Amman:
Al-Saban 36730
Nadwiah 23072
Al-Quds 21370
Umm Uthayneh 913200

Zargat:
Tareq (-)

IRBID

Al-Hassan 71638
TAXIS:
First 23427
Al Urdun 23850
Basmam 56736
Al Sabah 76748

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 65198
Al Hussein Youth City 67181
Y.W.C.A. 41799
Amman Municipal Library 64251
University of Jordan Library 843555/
843666

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 3:02
Sunrise 4:35
Dhuhr 11:32
Asr 3:13
Maghreb 6:30
Isha 8:03

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings
every second and fourth Wednesday at
the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every
first and third Wednesday at the Inter-
continental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday
at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings
every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn,
1.30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military
memorabilia dating from the Arab

Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman.
Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to
Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel.
660401
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and
costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics
from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th
centuries). The Roman Theatre,
Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5
p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to
150 year old items such as costumes,
weapons, musical instruments, etc.
Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an
excellent collection of the antiquities of
Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Crisel Hill).
Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
(Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal 99.71/00
Lebanese pound 69.16/9.5
Syrian pound 58.15/8.8
Iraqi dinar 596.2/602.5
Kuwaiti dinar 1196.3/1200.6
Egyptian pound 341.6/347.5
Qatari riyal 93.8/94

UAE dirham 92.9/93.2
Omani rial 985.6/990
U.S. dollar 341/343
U.K. sterling 622.5/626.2
W. German mark 248.9/149.8
Swiss franc 176.1/177.5
French franc 571/573

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Fire, fire, police 199
Fire headquarters 22008
Cablegram or telegram 18
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls 10
Overseas radio and satellite calls 17
Telephone maintenance and repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Tomatoes 130 80
Eggplant (small) 190 150
Potatoes (imported) 210 180
Lemons 170 140
Marrow (small) 120 90
Marrow (large) 230 200
Cucumber (small) 180 150
Cucumber (large) 180 160
Hot Green Pepper 220 180
Sweet Pepper 80 50
Onions (dry) 90 70
Green onions 80 60
Spinach 100 80
Beans 210 160
Bananas 260 200
Bananas (Mukammal) 225 180
Pist 250 200
Carrot 300 250
Green Almonds per 1/2 pounds 130 100
Broad Beans 250 170

Apples (Double Red) 250 170
Apples (Stark) 250 170
Lemons 150 120
Oranges (Shamout) 200 150
Oranges (Valencia) 100 80
Cauliflowers (white) 150 100
Carrot 130 100
Grapefruit 450 400
Apples (American) 430 350
Apples (Japanese) 420 360
Apples (African) 480 400
Grape leaves 350 300
Water Melon (Mulukhiyah) 300 250
Apples (Turkish) 430 350
Fogout 160 120
Parsley 100 100
Radish 150 100
Sage 300 250
Apricots 700 600
Melons 500 400

Handwritten text in Arabic script.

Lagos oil output recovers

BAHRAIN (R) — Nigeria's oil output, which has plummeted over the past two months, is rising faster than expected and may top 1.3 million barrels a day (b/d) this month, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) has reported.

The Nicosia-based oil journal said increased exports by Nigeria and Iran have probably raised OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil output to 17 million b/d.

This compares with a low of around 16 million in mid-April when low demand in the indus-

trialised countries aggravated a world oil glut.

MEES said reports from Lagos "indicate that average Nigerian crude oil output in May will reach or even surpass the OPEC ceiling of 1.3 million b/d."

Nigeria's output fell to 880,000 b/d in April from 1.75 million in January as customers shunned its high-priced oil. The country has an OPEC-set price of \$35.50 a barrel, a premium of \$1.50 over the OPEC reference price.

To defend its pricing strategy during the glut, OPEC set ceiling

on production by its 13 members and threatened sanctions against companies if they continued to cut back on purchases from Nigeria.

"It appears that improved market conditions have begun to attract back many of the customers that Nigeria lost during the doldrums of March and April," MEES said.

Though Nigeria might breach the 1.3 million b/d level this month, the ceiling applied to the quarter as a whole, MEES noted.

Inflation in Turkey tops 34%

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's annual wholesale price index, used here as the measure of inflation, rose above 30 per cent in April for the first time since September, according to government figures published Monday.

The Trade Ministry said that on a 1963 base of 100, the April index was 433.6, a 34.2 per cent year-on-year rise and a 2.6 per cent gain from March.

Inflation was reduced last year to 36.8 per cent from more than 100 per cent in 1980 as the government's strict monetary policies took effect. Ministers have set a target of below 25 per cent for this year.

Exchange market' quieter as dealers gather for talks

LONDON (R) — Europe's foreign exchange markets were unusually quiet Monday, partly because currency dealers were gathering in London for their annual convention.

Dea said that business was very restricted when the markets opened Monday. The dollar was steady at around 2.2950 marks after a slight rise against other currencies last week as traders balanced their books before leaving for London.

Sterling rose a little against other currencies, trading at \$1.8255, 1.8250 on Friday but the market was still taking a wait-and-see attitude because of the Falklands crisis.

The Foreign Exchange Congress, which is usually marked by thin and erratic trading, gives dealers a chance to discuss developments in the major currencies as well as to extend acquaintances made in telephone calls across the world.

The meeting is expected to discuss raising the stature of the U.S. dollar as a world currency, as well as extending trading to Saturday and Sunday in Middle Eastern financial centres. The dealers will also consider the role of new technology in their business.

South Korean businessmen arrested in loan scandal

SEOUL (R) — The steel company here, arrested on charges of involvement in a multi-million dollar loan scandal, the prosecutor-general's office said Monday.

The office said its chairman Chu Chang-Kyun had been charged with bribery and fraud in connection with the scandal. This brings to 17 the number of people charged with involvement in the unofficial loan scandal that has pushed dozens of companies to the verge of bankruptcy and rocked the South Korean economy.

The prosecutor's office said 50 million won (\$70,000) Mr. Chu had given bribes totalling President Kong Duk-Jong, a senior Commercial Bank of Korea lines open despite its insolvency, to keep Iljin credit.

Mr. Bae was charged with \$61 million won (\$1.2 million) worth of cheques knowing the bank had no funds available to meet them, the office said.

BIS: Moscow's deposits with Western banks rise sharply

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — The Soviet Union's depleted deposits of funds with Western Banks recovered strongly in the fourth quarter of 1981 at a time when it was apparently selling gold heavily, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Monday.

Its deposits with banks in the main non-communist industrial countries rose by \$3.9 billion to \$8.4 billion during the last three months of the year, the BIS said in its quarterly report on international banking. This was only slightly lower than the \$8.6 billion at the end of 1980.

Soviet deposits fell to \$3.6 billion in the first half of last year, a decline which the BIS had earlier linked with financial aid to Poland. At that time, Russian banks also said the Russians were selling heavily any gold.

The net indebtedness of other East European countries showed only minor changes during the last three months of 1981.

OPEC countries, which in the third quarter became net borrowers of funds from the banks for the first time since 1978, took a further \$5.5 billion of funds on a net basis in the last quarter of the year.

Middle Eastern funds

The BIS, which conducts banking operations and studies on

behalf of central banks, said "high absorbing" Middle East countries reduced funds held at the banks by \$4.4 billion.

These nations—Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Libya and Oman—tend to spend their oil receipts at a relatively fast rate rather than keeping them as savings. Nigeria and Indonesia also wound down their deposits by lesser amounts.

However, the "low absorbers"—Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates—put a further \$4.3 billion into their international bank deposits during the fourth quarter.

New lending to non-oil developing countries rose to \$16.9 billion during this period from \$11 billion in the previous quarter. Much of this went to Latin America, with Mexico and Brazil recording particularly large increases.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.8260/70	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2370/73	Canadian dollars
	2.2903/13	West German marks
	2.5450/80	Dutch guilders
	1.9390/9400	Swiss francs
	43.19/26	Belgian francs
	5.9710/40	French francs
	1272.00/1273.00	Italian lire
	235.00/15	Japanese yen
	5.7420/40	Swedish crowns
	5.9180/9210	Norwegian crowns
	7.7630/55	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	338.10/338.70	U.S. dollars

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SPORTS

TENNIS TALK

The 5-minute warm up

By Maureen Stalla

HOW SHOULD you spend the very important five minute warm up time allowed before a tournament match? Should you concentrate on getting the feel of your own strokes, or should you concentrate on feeling out your opponent? Should you perform calisthenics, or should you count the spectators?

Definitely, one cannot get warmed up in five minutes. You should play a half hour before the match on a practice court. The very least you should do is some limbering exercises.

The pre-match warm up is the time to feel out your opponent. You should test out all his strokes. See how he handles drives on both sides, slices to both sides. Are his volleys crisp on both sides? Give him low balls and high balls. Find out if he can run side to side. Be on the alert for idiosyncrasies. For instance, does he return all slices to the backhand side; or does he always volley crosscourt?

Naturally, he will probably be probing your game. So try not to show your weaknesses. Practice your faulty overhead before the match: don't ask for some if you think you will hit one out of ten. Don't practise your best serve and all your spins in the warm up—just warm up your arm.

Finally, the warm up is a time for you to get acquainted with the court conditions. Watch the way the ball bounces to see if there are bad places on the court. If the wind is blowing, throw up some loles in order to gauge its intensity and direction. Adjust your eyes to the sun. Above all, stay calm. Don't show alarm if a few forehands hit the bottom of the net or sail over the fence. Smile. Nothing will rattle your opponent faster than the sight of you as placid as a Zen master.

The warm up is a very important preparation for the match in many ways. Use it creatively to gain every possible advantage you can before the opening serve.

Jordan Tennis Open scheduled for June

AMMAN (J.T.)—The Jordan Tennis Federation announced the Jordan Open Tennis Tournament June 11-18. The tournament is open to all residents in Jordan. Events are men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles. Registration is at Sports City and all entries must be received by June 4th at 5 p.m. The tournament, sponsored by the Marriott, will take place at the Royal Automobile Club.

Japan will not take part in World Women's Softball

TOKYO (R)—The Japan Softball Association said Monday it had decided not to take part in the controversial fifth World Women's Softball Championship in Taiwan in July.

Tadashi Miki, the association's managing director, said the association had reversed its decision in April on conditional participation in the championship because of "our earnest desire to stay out of politics."

The Association had told the International Softball Federation (ISF) it would take part in the event only if no national flags or anthems were used, but there had been no guarantee from Taiwan that it would not use the Taiwan flag and anthem, Mr. Miki said. China, which claims sovereignty over Taiwan, has announced it will not send a team because of the lack of any guarantee from Taiwan.

Mr. Miki said his association had not consulted either the Japanese government or its Chinese counterpart body before taking its decision not to go to Taipei for the championship from July 2 to 11.

European under-21 final delayed

LONDON (R)—England and West Germany have received permission from UEFA (the European Football Union) to delay their European under-21 championship final until next season. It was announced here Monday.

The first leg, in England, will take place in September and the second leg the following month. Venues have yet to be decided.

TIME

The World News Magazine

At the brink of war
The high price of combat (with cover story on the Falklands developments)
The Palestinian poll
Palestinians: Radical, resentful (with story on Time-sponsored public opinion poll among West Bank Palestinians)
The year of Garibaldi (Italy honours its founding father)

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Soviets, strong in qualifying, are World Cup favourite



This preview is one in a series of features on the soccer teams that will play in the World Cup in Spain June 11 to July 13. The Soviet Union plays in Group 6 along with Brazil, Scotland and New Zealand.

MOSCOW (A.P.)—Led by outstanding strikers Ramaz Shengelia, Oleg Blokhin and David Kipiani, the Soviet Union looks likely to be one of the most powerful teams in the 1982 World Cup soccer tournament.

Unbeaten in eight European qualifying matches, in which they conceded only two goals while scoring 20, the Russians have been widely picked as one of the top teams in the 24-nation field.

West Germany, Brazil, Argentina and Spain are consensus picks as the teams to beat for the title, but the Soviets also are highly fancied.

But just how good are the Soviets? On June 14, they meet Brazil in their first-round match in Seville. As three-time World Cup winners, the Brazilians are going to Spain as the strongest squad

from Latin America and look to be potential finalists.

Scotland and New Zealand were also drawn into Group 6 (with the Soviets and Brazil), but few experts give them much hope of reaching the second round.

Recently Brazilian coach Tele Santana commented: "The Soviets are better team players (than Scotland). They have been training for a long time and are all ready."

"They are technically far better than Scotland at the moment," Santana said, "but added that the Scots 'fight harder' than the Russians."

Soviet coach Konstantin Beskov is accepting all the praise with a note of caution. He complained that his prospective starting lineup didn't show the required teamwork and technique in World Cup

warmup matches. "Ist club opponents in Spain earlier this year, when they were not up to the demands of modern football," Beskov commented.

"If after the team defence be is a player is not apt to make mistakes in a and vice versa... a modern forward has to be versatile."

But it is these qualities, the ability and technical flair of the Soviet players, and their cohesive cohesion on the field that prompted such high expectations for their showing in Spain.

Beskov has cited major improvements over the last two years, dribbling, inter-yearly regaining possession



formed on the basis of our unsuccessful Olympic national team only two years ago. There isn't a single player who has participated in the World Cup finals before," he said in a recent Soviet newspaper interview.

Favoured to win the 1980 Moscow Olympic gold medal, the Russians were bitterly disappointed when they lost to East Germany in the semifinals and had to settle for the bronze.

Czechoslovakia took the Gold medal by edging East Germany 1-0.

Shengelia is everybody's pick as the superstar of the squad. The dark-haired striker from Tbilisi was voted the Soviet Union's top player in 1981, scoring 23 goals to lead the league. He scored seven more as Tbilisi won the 1981 European Cup of Cup Winners, and contributed four goals when the Russians won six and drew two World Cup qualifying matches.

Blokhin, who was Europe's Footballer of the Year in 1975, is still a dangerous marksman at age 29. He sparked Kiev to last year's Soviet league championship. Kipiani, 30, is third member of the forward "Troika."

According to Beskov and other Soviet sources, the following players are almost certain to be included on the squad: Goalkeepers—Dasayev and Viktor Chernov of Donetsk.

Forwards—Shengelia, Kipiani, Blokhin, Yuri Gavrilov of Spartak Moscow and Sergei Andreev of Rostov.

Midfield—Leonid Buryak and Vladimir Bessonov of Kiev and Vitaly Darasella of Tbilisi.

Defence: Chivadze, Baltacha and Anatoly Demyanenko of Kiev and Sergei Borovsky of Mminuk.

Superb fitness, superior technical skills, fierce will to win, ingredients of Cub boxing

MUNICH (R)—Cuba first, the United States and the Soviet Union second, the rest nowhere.

That was the story of the Third World Amateur Boxing Championships which ended here Saturday night, the Cubans taking five gold medals as they had in Havana in 1974 and in Belgrade two years later.

The ingredients for the Cuban boxing success story have become familiar over the past decade. They include superb fitness, superior technical skills and a

fierce will to win, which can be felt well beyond the confines of the ring.

The pride they take in their position as the world's leading amateur boxing nation was vividly illustrated Saturday night in sixth and final fight involving Cuban.

Light-heavyweight Pablo ero, one of the newcomers International stage, was Poland's Pawel Skrzeczek, a handful and at the end of the second round must have

ing on points.

split. Second later he was visibly wishing he had gone nowhere else.

Romero's seconds, clearly impressed by his performance, kept into the ring, gave him a particularly rough rub-down and harangued the unfortunate Romero throughout the 60 seconds allowed between rounds.

At the end of the lecture Romero was clearly relieved to get back to the comparatively tender mercies of Skrzeczek and fought with such zeal that he ended up a unanimous points winner.

Impressive as the Cubans were, the American fighters caught the eye with their variety of styles to confirm that their country is on the way back to becoming a major boxing power again.

American Tyrell Biggs took the first super-heavyweight championship when he skillfully outpointed Italy's Francesco Damiani.

Damiani, fighting as an amateur for the last time, was clearly disappointed. But he will be remembered as the man who ended the reign of Cuba's mighty Teofilo Stevenson.

Stevenson, unbeaten in three Olympic games and two World Championships, was gracious in defeat and insisted that he planned to carry on boxing at least until the next Olympics.

The Africans provided some memorable moments in the tournament's early stages with their all-out aggression.

El Salvador names 18 for World Cup

SAN SALVADOR (R)—El Salvador have included in their specialist goalkeeper, 19-year-old Luis Ricardo Guevara in their squad of 18 players for the World Cup finals.

Squad: Goalkeepers—Luis Ricardo Guevara, Moros, Defenders—Francisco Jovel Cruz, Carlos Humberto Jaimé Rodriguez, Ranton Alfredo Fagoaga, Francisco Osorio, Mario Alfonso Castillo, Midfield—Norberto Huico Montoya, Mauricio Alfaro, Silvio Romeo Aquino, Jose Luis Rogamas, Miguel Forwards—Jose Maria Rivas, Julio Eduardo Hernandez, Angel Diaz, Joaquin Alfonso Ventura, Francisco Jorge Alberto Gonzalez, Luis Baltasar Ramirez

Connors leads tennis stars

LONDON (R)—American Jimmy Connors draws from the Grand Prix tennis standings despite having a leg injury.

West German Open in Hamburg last week, 1,590 points. Latest standings: 1-Jimmy Connors (U.S.) 1,175, 2-Guillermo Vilas (Argentina) 1,175, 3-McEnroe (U.S.) 1,075, 4-Gene Mayer (U.S.) 555, 5-Peter McNamara (U.S.) 520, 6-Peter McNamara (U.S.) 520, 7-Johanis (U.S.) 495, 8-Yannick Noah (France) 514, 9-Vitas Jose Higuera (Spain) 454.

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French cup squad to train before final selection is made

PARIS (R)—French soccer manager Michel Hidalgo Monday named the 22 players he expects to take to Spain for the World Cup finals.

The squad will start training in the Pyrenean ski resort of Font-Romeu on Wednesday, before the final selection is confirmed.

Goalkeepers: Dominique Baratte (Paris Saint Germain), Jean Castaneda (Saint Etienne), Jean-Luc Ettori (Monaco).

Defenders: Max Bossis (Nantes), Gerard Janvion (Saint Etienne), Christian Lopez (Saint Etienne), Marius Tresor (Bordeaux), Philippe Mahut (Metz), Didier Amoros (Monaco), Dominique Batisson (Saint Etienne).

Midfield: Jean Ligana (Bordeaux), Michel Platini (Saint Etienne), Jean Francois Larios (Saint Etienne), Bernard Genghini (Sochaux), Alain Giresse (Bordeaux), Rene Girard (Bordeaux).

Forwards: Didier Six (Stuttgart), Bruno Bellone (Monaco), Bernard Lacombe (Bordeaux), Dominique Robeteau (Paris Saint Germain), Alain Couriol (Monaco), Gerard Soler (Bordeaux).

Santamaria names Spain's Squad for World Cup

LA MOLINA, Spain (R)—Spanish manager Jose Emilio Santamaria Sunday named a World Cup squad of 40 which superseded a pre-selection party of 22 he named earlier this month.

The only surprises were the inclusion of Real Madrid's reserve goalkeeper Miguel Angel who played only rarely for the first team in the past season and the exclusion of Barcelona midfielder Victor Munoz.

Munoz was injured in Barcelona's penultimate League match of the season against Real Madrid on April 18.

The 40 are:

Goalkeepers—Luis Arconada (Real Sociedad), Javier Urruti (Barcelona), Miguel Angel (Real Madrid) Jose Sempere (Valencia).

Backs—Jose Alesanco (Barcelona), Antonio Alvarez (Sevilla) Miguel De Andres (Athletic Bilbao), Jose Camacho (Real Madrid), Genaro Celayeta (Real Sociedad), Rafael Gordillo (Real Betis), Manuel Jimenez



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Dr. Bakri, a Palestinian gynaecologist performs new experiment on cancer patient

Pump eases pain, makes life much better for cancer patient

By Lisa Ellis
Virginia Staff Writer

NORFOLK — When Carol McDaniels leaves the hospital, she's planning to rediscover her family.

Mrs. McDaniels hasn't seen much of her husband and two children lately. Instead, she has slept through most of the last several months, virtually immobilized by the medicine that kept at bay the crushing pain of advanced cervical cancer.

The 35-year-old Suffolk woman expects to be back on her feet soon, thanks to a drug-dispensing pump that keeps away the pain with only 1 per cent of the numbing medicine she used to receive.

A little narcotic goes a long way because the device, implanted under the skin, sends the drug through a tube to where it is needed. Thus, the nerves leading from the spinal cord to the pelvic region are "bathed in morphine," explained Dr. Younes N. Bakri, the specialist in gynaecological cancer who is treating Mrs.

McDaniels. An injection, on the other hand, would be dispensed through the entire bloodstream.

Mrs. McDaniels is one of only about 60 cancer patients in the country — and the first in Tidewater — now testing a drug pump for pain control. The trials are required by the FDA before any treatment is approved for general use.

The first implant was made about 18 months ago at the Mayo Clinic, and most others have been done since September, said Sam Cozzie, vice-president of operations for Infusaid Corp. of Norwood, Mass., which made Mrs. McDaniels' pump.

Pumps already have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for cancer chemotherapy and for diffusion of heparin, a drug that reduces the risk of blood clots. Tests involving insulin are under way.

The potential for pain relief in cancer patients is especially exciting, however, Bakri said. "It is a great thing for any cancer below the belly button," including the liver, ovaries, rectum, uterus, cer-

vix, vulva and bones of the lower limbs, he said.

Higher in the body, it could be risky for such vital organs as the heart, lungs, and brain to send morphine directly to the nerves, Bakri said.

But for cancers in the pelvic region, he said, the narcotic-dispensing pump can make life much better. Otherwise, he said, "the patients really live long, but the quality of life is terrible" because of pain, nausea from pain medication, or loss of bodily functions.

Interviewed Friday in her room at De Paul Hospital, Mrs. McDaniels said she readily agreed to the procedure even though it was experimental. "I was all for it because there were very few avenues left open to me," she said softly, still appearing pale and tired from the April 14 operation. "I found out that I wasn't able to do my own chores," she said. "It was very difficult even to take care of my children."

Mrs. McDaniels' cancer, diagnosed in 1979, began to produce severe pain early last fall, said Bakri, an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at Eastern Virginia Medical School. First aspirin was tried, then codeine, then the synthetic narcotic Percodan. After her body developed tolerance to these drugs, each progressively stronger, she was given a powerful concoction known as a Brompton's cocktail — a mixture of morphine, cocaine, ethanol alcohol, a drug to control vom-

iting, and syrup for flavour.

The "cocktails" worked until December, when Mrs. McDaniels began developing such a tolerance that a bottle designed for a week's use would last only two days, Bakri said.

"With that much morphine and cocaine in the system," Bakri said, "she was on the verge of respiratory arrest," the same thing that killed comedian John Belushi recently when he injected himself with heroin and cocaine.

"She slept 34 hours a day," he said. "She couldn't talk to her children and her husband." By late December, "we were at the point where she takes the cocktail and she throws it up."

Finally, Bakri said, he had to admit her to the hospital for hourly injections of hydromorphone, a narcotic five times the strength of morphine. With 2-milligramme shots every hour, she was receiving the equivalent of 240 milligrammes of morphine a day — a dosage that would have killed anyone without such strong tolerance.

Bakri, meanwhile, had been trying for months to get through paperwork and legal negotiations in order to secure permission to test the pump. He knew that even Mrs. McDaniels' drug-dependent system could start needing so much medicine that she might slip into a coma and die.

"He was trying to walk that fine line of how much medicine to give her," explained Mrs. McDaniels' husband, Roy, 35.

One day in March, the hydromorphone shots no longer were enough. Bakri gave an injection of

Demerol. It stopped the pain — too well.

"That sent her heart into a rapid beat, and her blood pressure dropped real low," McDaniels said. For a tense two hours, Bakri stayed at her bedside, working to pull her out of the coma, McDaniels said.

With her condition stable again, Mrs. McDaniels has a choice. She could get an operation that would sever or slash part of the spinal cord, cutting off the pain permanently but also causing paralysis and destroying bowel and urinary control. Or she could wait, just a little longer, for the pump.

She waited. At last, the operation was performed at De Paul by Bakri, Dr. Daniel White and Dr. Robert Rashri, both neurosurgeons; and Dr. Fred Given, a gynaecologist.

The pump, the size of a hockey puck, was implanted in front, near the right hipbone, with a long tube threaded under the skin to the second lumbar vertebra in the spinal column. There, it was anchored in place, just outside the sheath that contains the spinal fluid and readily accessible to the pelvic nerves.

With the skin sewn back up, the body's heat vapourised the fluid in one chamber of the pump, and the pressure of expanding gas began the slow release of the drug.

About every two weeks, the pump will have to be refilled with morphine by a syringe, Bakri said.

Receiving smaller doses of the synthetic narcotic methadone every day, Mrs. McDaniels is being weaned gradually from her body's strong drug dependence, soon, she will need only the morphine, pumped from within. With the help of her mother, who is staying with the family, she expects to run a household, take care of her children, and lead a much more normal life.

"I don't believe there's going to be any limits because I'm not the

athletic type, and they're the only ones who have problems," she said.

Because the pump operates on pressure, any strong increase in body temperature — from heavy exercise or a fever — could release more morphine, Bakri said. Severe changes in altitude also could affect the drug flow.

An even newer pump, implanted in a human for the first time six weeks ago, would not have such problems because it is controlled by a computer programme, not pressure, said Syl Jones, manager of media relations for Medtronic Inc., of Minneapolis, manufacturer of the new device.

The computerised pump also can reduce the chance of developing a tolerance, Jones contended, because it releases the drug at regular intervals, instead of constantly.

Bakri admitted that future drug tolerance is one unanswered question about Mrs. McDaniels' device. "She may develop tolerance like this, but it will never be the same as with the (injections)," he said. "Even if it was 10 times more it would be 25 milligrammes compared to 240."

A problem that concerns Bakri more is the \$3,000 cost of each pump, which is not reimbursed now by any public or private insurance because it is an experimental procedure. Bakri said he has another patient now at Norfolk General who could benefit from a pump but cannot afford it. He invited any individual or civic group who would like to help to call him at the medical school.

As for the McDaniels family, they are managing the expense gladly, said McDaniels, who is in the construction business. "You can't put a price tag on the relief she has."

The above article is reprinted from The Virginian-Pilot and the Ledger-Star

Kim Jong-Il to face uphill task in attaining presidency

By James Foley
Reuter

TOKYO — Despite increasingly effusive praise in the North Korean official media, Kim Jong-Il appears to be having difficulty in getting senior army officers to agree that he should succeed his father as president.

Kim Il-Sung, who has led North Korea since its birth in 1948, is the object of an official personality cult verging on the religious.

But, at 70, he must be expected to step down from power in the next few years, and diplomats and officials in Tokyo and Seoul say the two Kim's have been working for a decade towards a handover of power from father to son.

This would make North Korea the first communist dynasty—a label that would be viewed with some embarrassment by both China and Russia, Pyongyang's allies, the diplomats and officials say.

King Jong-Il, chubby, bespectacled and 40 years old, is increasingly being lauded by the country's state-controlled media.

The (North) Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), monitored in Tokyo, ran a report recently about an anthology of poems about President Kim in which he was described as the sun of mankind, illuminating the world and giving brightness and joy to all peoples.

The younger Kim was described as "the dear leader Kim Jong-Il, he is the lodestar of the age."

Despite the younger Kim's great power in North Korea as a senior official of the Korean Workers' (communist) party he has never held a government position or served in any senior post in the armed forces.

Specialist observers on North Korean affairs both here and in Seoul had expected the younger Kim to become one of North Korea's three vice-presidents during last month's selection of a new cabinet.

They thought this was needed to give him experience of government and the international cachet needed to impress senior

members of the leadership, especially army officers, before any takeover from President Kim.

Despite their predictions, Kim Jong-Il was not named to vice president and since then the experts have been trying to figure out how and why they were wrong.

Now, they say, a theme is emerging which might explain why the younger Kim still has not been named to a government post.

They say statements made by President Kim at the end of last month indicate that there is still some resistance in the army to the idea of the younger Kim eventually taking over the country.

The experts say President Kim made clear that the army must be subservient to the leadership of the party and remain loyal to the guidelines laid down by the party.

They say in effect this means that the army leadership should be guided by President Kim and his son, who holds the second most important post in the party secretariat, the centre of power of the party.

The Korea watcher also detect a new effort to have the two Kim's linked more closely to indicate that the two, together, are leading the country along the path to new prosperity.

This means that the younger Kim could have in the reflected glory of his father's perceived accomplishments, while any critics would be wary of attacking him for fear of being accused of also criticising his father.

The diplomats and officials say that older army officers, those in their 50s and 60s, apparently did not altogether approve of the idea of the younger Kim assuming the presidency because of his relative youth and inexperience.

They say that in 1980 Kim had been named a senior member of the party's military commission in an effort to give him experience in military affairs and to bind army leaders to him.

Because of his relative inexperience in military affairs, South Korean officials believe he may take a harder line against South Korea than his father if and when he succeeds to the presidency.

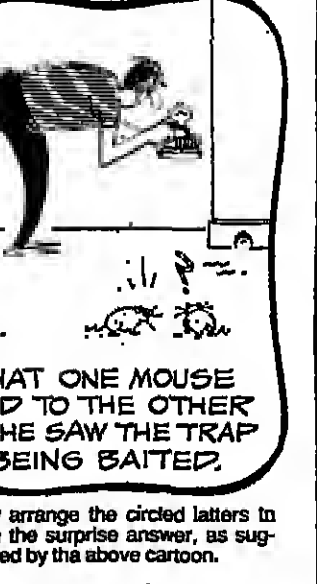
JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SOUHE
ENATE
SHRAIG
GINCHA

Answer here: "O O O O O O O O"

Saturday's Jumbles: PATIO STEED CENSUS BLAZER
Answer: Suggested that he was proud of the fact that he worked less than anyone else—AN IDLE BOAST



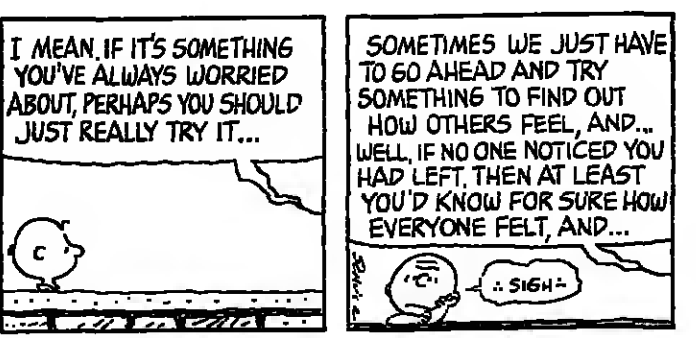
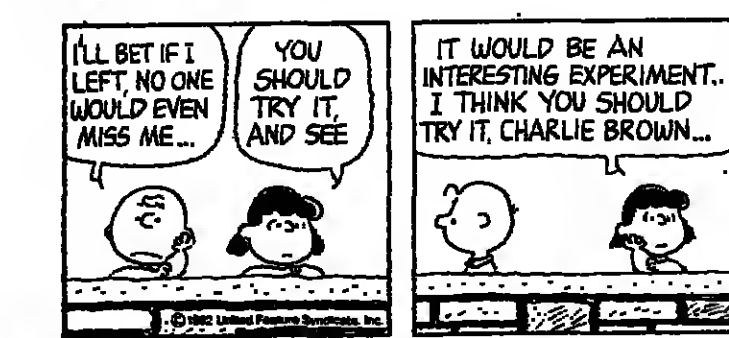
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE BETTER HALF

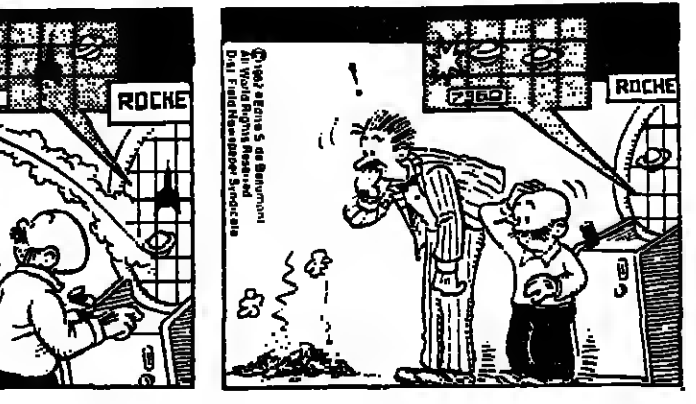
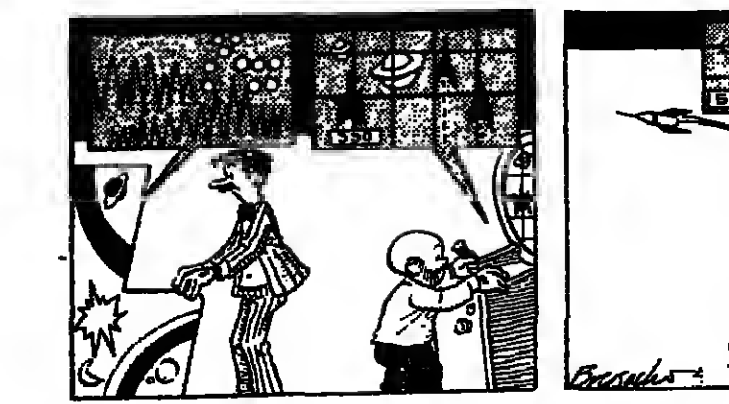
By Vinson



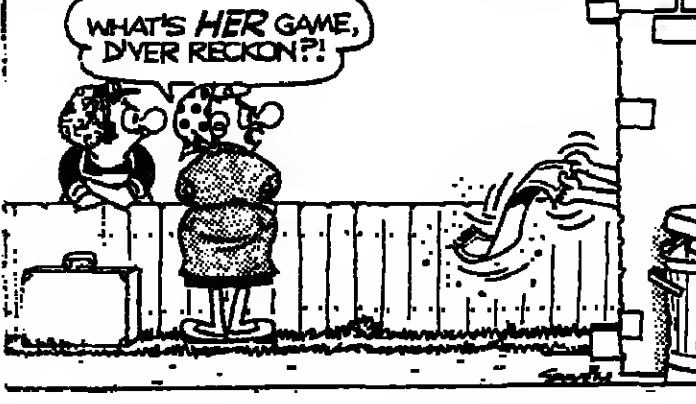
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to avoid getting into disputes with associates since long-term alienations could take place. Go to the right sources to obtain facts and figures regarding a new project.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make sure you do nothing that could harm your reputation today. A higher-up is upset now so steer clear of this person.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) The work at hand could be boring and you wish to go to new sites, but it's best to finish your duties first. Be logical.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't try to avoid your responsibilities at this time. Show more understanding for loved one now and maintain harmony.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Don't try to renege on a promise you've made with an associate. Sidestep one who opposes you. Be poised.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Do your work efficiently and don't try to overburden a co-worker with tasks that you should do. Become a more friendly person.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't give into a temptation to overspend where amusement is concerned. Discuss important matters with higher-ups.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) The situation could be tense at home, but if you relax and pretend all is okay, you find it soon rights itself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Instead of berating co-workers for their mistakes, show them how they can be rectified and all works out fine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Know exactly what your personal aims are and pursue them in a positive manner. Show that you have character.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to advance in career activities. Steer clear of the social where arguments could erupt. Use common sense.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't delay doing important work early in the day. Later try to assist a friend who needs your help. Be more generous.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't show your ire to a friend who you feel has been working against you since this is not the case. Express happiness.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she should be taught to be more considerate of less fortunate persons, otherwise your progeny could go through life alienating others. Direct the education along trouble-shooting lines for best results.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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THE Daily Crossword

by Bert H. Kruse

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| ACROSS | 1 Honey drink | 31 Michael and Richard | 53 Pear-shaped instrument | 18 Hat sections |
| 5 Islinglass | 35 Mature | 55 Diamond | 22 Releasin | |
| 9 Operative | 36 Take a nap | 57 Nut | 24 Beer mug | |
| 14 Rose's man | 38 Actress | 61 Mark | 26 Pod-produce | |
| 15 Israeli | 39 LBJ's in-law | 65 Flynn ol | 27 Greek mari | |
| 16 "on Sunday" | 41 The Sky's the limit | 68 Sports | 28 Protest | |
| 17 Green orbs | 42 The Sky's the limit | 69 Provide | 30 Macho type | |
| 19 Inscribed pillar | 43 Ditto | 70 Cave in | 32 Gladde | |
| 20 Newspaper ad | 44 Mountain nymph | 71 Portals | 33 Storied lion's home | |
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Saturday's Puzzle Solved:

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WORLD

NATO backs U.S. arms curb offer

LUXEMBOURG (R) — NATO governments Monday backed a U.S. call for deep nuclear arms cuts and said the West must always be ready for a dialogue with the Soviet Union.

Foreign Ministers of the 15-nation Western defence alliance, opening a twice-yearly conference, lined up solidly behind U.S. proposals to reduce super-power strategic warhead stocks by one-third, NATO sources said.

They also supported a proposal by President Reagan that U.S.-Soviet strategic arms talks, broken off three years ago, should be resumed next month, an offer not yet accepted by Moscow.

The NATO ministers were expected to approve a West German plan for additional informal alliance meetings to guard against misunderstandings developing between the United States and its West European allies.

U.S. proposals on strategic arms, announced by Mr. Reagan last week, were warmly welcomed by Mr. Genscher, British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, Canadian External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan and other ministers, Luxembourg conference sources said.

They also stressed that NATO should continue striving for a constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union.

Mr. Genscher said Moscow should be left in no doubt over the firmness of NATO's defence posture, but it was essential to continue working for what he called "genuine detente."

West Germany wants detente to be reaffirmed when the two-day NATO meeting ends Tuesday, but the United States would prefer the concept to be changed to "dialogue" between East and West.

Mr. Haig explained U.S. plans for two-stage strategic arms reduction talks which would lead first to deep cuts in warheads and later to the dismantling of missiles to a ceiling of 850 on each side for both Washington and Moscow.

West European officials said U.S. allies were pleased that Mr. Haig promised full consultations within NATO during the forthcoming talks.

A senior U.S. official told reporters a response from Mr. Brezhnev to the U.S. proposals was expected soon, possibly in the next few days.

Mr. Haig told the foreign ministers that the U.S. call for a one-third cut in warheads was "not just designed to capture the public imagination" but was intended to meet real military problems.

The NATO ministers believed the Soviet Union would probably criticise the U.S. negotiating approach but felt Moscow was prepared to begin talks, the official said. The U.S. was ready to deal with Cruise missiles and bombers as well as land and sea missiles during the negotiations.

The foreign ministers will probably meet informally at the United Nations General Assembly in September, as proposed by West Germany, NATO sources said.

Liberal candidate wins Dominican elections

SANTO DOMINGO (R) — Salvador Jorge Blanco of the Dominican republic's ruling Revolutionary Party (PRD) Monday claimed victory in presidential elections.

Early returns issued by the electoral tribunal gave Dr. Jorge Blanco 48.6 per cent of Sunday's vote against 34.7 per cent for his main rival, Joaquín Balaguer of the opposition Reformist Party.

He told former Venezuelan President Carlos Andrés Pérez, who telephoned to congratulate him: "There is no doubt whatsoever of my victory."

Dr. Jorge Blanco, a 54-year-old Liberal, then told reporters he planned to visit the United States

and Europe before taking office on Aug. 16 to meet foreign leaders and tell them of his country's problems.

The Caribbean republic is suffering from high unemployment and inflation, current account balance of payments difficulties and a foreign debt estimated at over \$2 billion.

Seven parties fielded candidates for president, vice-president, 27 senators and 120 deputies. None of Dr. Jorge Blanco's opponents has conceded defeat so far.

The elections were held peacefully, the exception rather than the rule in the generally turbulent Central American and Caribbean region.

Austria's last empress back after 63 years

VIENNA (R) — Zita, the last empress of Austria and queen of Hungary, has returned to Austria after a 63-year exile to visit the grave of her daughter, a spokeswoman for the interior ministry said Monday.

Austrian press and radio reports said the 90-year-old former empress travelled to Austria by train Sunday for a one-day visit from Switzerland, where she lives in the village of Zizers, near the Austrian border.

Zita has been banned from visiting Austria because she refused to renounce her imperial past.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Emir of Bahrain to visit Oman

BAHRAIN (R) — The Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, will pay a four-day visit to Oman next week to pursue his contacts with leaders of Gulf states on the situation in the region, officials said Monday. Sheikh Isa visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait this month against a background of growing concern in the region at the continuing Iraq-Iran war. The six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates—are consulting with other Arab states in an attempt to formulate a joint Arab position on the war. They held inconclusive talks in Kuwait on Saturday and are to meet again in the Saudi capital Riyadh on May 30. Sheikh Isa's host, Oman's Sultan Qaboos bin Sa'id, visited Egypt last week in what was seen in Cairo as a possible turning point in Egypt's estrangement from the Arab World.

Turkish police smash drug ring

ISTANBUL (R) — Istanbul police have smashed a drug smuggling gang with links in West Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium, arresting 15 people and seizing heroin worth more than \$1 million, a Turkish newspaper reported Monday. The daily Hurriyet said police trailed a Mercedes car with West German number plates for more than two months before moving in on the gang. It did not say when the operation took place. Police seized 5.5 kilograms of heroin found in the Mercedes worth about \$1.25 million on the European market, Hurriyet said. It gave no further details of the gang.

Mubarak dismisses 7 local governors

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak has dismissed seven of Egypt's local governors and replaced most of them by police officers. All 28 governors of the country hold ministerial rank and have discretionary powers. Those dismissed included the governor of the upper Egyptian town of Assiut, Mohammad Osman Ismail, who was replaced by police General Zaki Badr. Mr. Ismail was in office when Assiut was hit by sectarian strife. Muslim extremists were alleged to have stormed police headquarters there on Oct. 7, the day after President Anwar Sadat was assassinated, killing four police officers, 62 policemen and 21 civilians. Others replaced were the governors of Giza, Alexandria, Suez, Beni Suef, Sohag and Gharbiya governorates.

Afghan leader to visit E. Germany

EAST BERLIN (R) — Afghan President Babrak Karmal arrives in East Germany on Wednesday for an official visit at the invitation of head of state and Communist Party leader Erich Honecker, the daily Neues Deutschland said Monday. The official party newspaper said Mr. Karmal would be leading a delegation of party and state representatives, but, as is normal with visiting dignitaries here, it gave no indication of how long the visit would last.

Stringent rules come into effect in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Strict new rules governing the conduct of civil servants, including a ban on all political activity, came into effect in Turkey Monday. Under the new restrictions, which appear as amendments to the existing law covering the 1.5 million-strong civil service, no government employee may join any political party or group dealing with politics or express "political or ideological views."

KGB questions AFP's Moscow correspondent

MOSCOW (R) — A Moscow-based French journalist has been barred from leaving the Soviet Union and questioned by the KGB security police over his links with an arrested Soviet citizen, his office said Monday.

Vladimir Gedlaghine, 38, a correspondent with the French news agency Agence France-Presse (AFP), has also been told by a KGB official that he could face a charge of anti-Soviet activity and propaganda. He has said there is no basis for such a charge.

The French embassy in Moscow said they had requested that the ban on Mr. Gedlaghine be lifted but that they had not yet received a reply from the Soviet foreign ministry.

The AFP bureau in Moscow said that Mr. Gedlaghine, who assumed his post last September, had been barred from leaving the country because of links with a Soviet citizen, Viktor Burdnyuk, who was arrested on April 6.

During five hours of questioning, Mr. Gedlaghine was told he was required as a witness in the case of Mr. Burdnyuk, a Russian Orthodox believer.

He was also accused of passing on to Mr. Burdnyuk several publications, which Soviet authorities described as anti-Soviet.

Mr. Gedlaghine denied this and said the only work he had given to Mr. Burdnyuk was a Western-published book called The History of Russian Religious Thought.

He was also told that he could himself face a charge of anti-Soviet activity and propaganda, his office said.

The last time a Western journalist was summoned for interrogation by the KGB was in June 1977 when Robert Toth, correspondent for the Los Angeles Times, was seized by police after receiving an article from a Soviet scientist.

Haig to meet Gromyko at U.N. special session

LUXEMBOURG (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig will meet Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in New York during the United Nations special session on disarmament opening on June 7, West German sources said Monday.

President Reagan had suggested a summit meeting with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in New York during the U.N. session, but Mr. Brezhnev rejected the proposal, suggesting instead a meeting in a neutral European country.

Mr. Haig and Mr. Gromyko last met in Geneva in January. Their one-day encounter, designed to deal with strategic arms control talks, in fact covered the situation in Poland and a number of East-West issues.

Mr. Haig, here for a regular meeting of NATO foreign ministers, told West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher Monday of his forthcoming meeting with Mr. Gromyko, the sources said.

Mr. Haig told Mr. Genscher of continued U.S. interest in a dialogue between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Brezhnev, the sources said.

The two men also talked over breakfast about next month's Versailles summit meeting of leading industrial democracies and the NATO summit meeting in Bonn on June 10, the sources said.

S. African raids kill 13 Angolans

LISBON (R) — South African air raids killed seven civilians and six Angolan soldiers during attacks on a power station and military targets in Southern Angola last weekend, the official Angolan news agency ANGOP said Monday.

ANGOP reported a defence ministry communiqué as saying three women and four children were killed on Friday when South African planes hit the power station of the Cassinga iron mine near Jamba, 300 kilometres from

the Namibian (South West African) border.

The communiqué said South African Mirage jets bombed Angolan military positions on Saturday and attempted to attack Jamba airport but were repulsed. Sunday nine Mirage aircraft bombed Angolan military positions in Cahama, near the border, killing six soldiers and wounding 14 others, it added.

The defence ministry said South African forces continued to control various areas in southern

Cunene province which they invaded last August.

ANGOP quoted the communiqué as saying the South Africans had built up forces and supplies on the Namibian border with Angola and had recently stepped up reconnaissance flights far into Angolan territory.

It said these facts and the increase in threats from South Africa concerning aid given by Angola to guerrillas fighting for Namibian independence, pointed to a new South African offensive.

Paris daily publishes unflattering American view of French president

PARIS (R) — French president François Mitterrand was described in a U.S. State Department report after his election as a romantic with little knowledge of foreign issues surrounded by inexperienced advisers, a Paris newspaper said Monday.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. embassy said the version of the May 1981 memo published by the leftwing daily Liberation, was accurate but stressed that the writer, senior department official John R. Dobrin, was expressing unofficial views.

In the paper, addressed to chiefs of the department's European section, Mr. Dobrin listed in highly critical terms weaknesses of the Socialist president and his foreign policy aides and suggested the U.S. move quickly to influence

them.

"François Mitterrand is essentially a romantic, literary thinker less moved by objective threat assessment than by a priori concerns for fuzzily-perceived goals," the report said.

(He is) likely to draw his security policy from the counsel of a tiny group of advisers, themselves woefully untrained, very poorly informed and far removed from modern security analysis," it added.

The memo written three days before Mr. Mitterrand took office, described him as a convinced Atlanticist, an outsider in his own Socialist party on foreign policy, and subject to daily bouts of gloom over the possibility of nuclear war.

"He will be flattered by our

initiative, especially if we suggest information seminars for his team," the memo added.

The memo predicted that Mr. Mitterrand would have little room for manoeuvre with the Soviet Union because of his years of struggle against the pro-Moscow French Communist Party.

It was particularly scathing about Mr. Mitterrand's close aides, who it said, had hardly any more knowledge of foreign affairs than the man in the street.

For example, Charles Hernu, now French defence minister, was weak on strategic questions and "he understands nothing about nuclear weapons," it said.

Diplomatic analysts now say the U.S. was unnecessarily alarmed and point to Mr. Mitterrand's strong pro-Washington stance.

CBS alleges U.S. gave asylum to East European Nazis

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. government officials smuggled several hundred Nazis and Nazi collaborators into the country from Eastern Europe at the end of World War II to assist in anti-Soviet intelligence operations, CBS television has reported.

Even though Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman barred entry to war criminals, and President Jimmy Carter declared in 1980 that any Nazi war criminal who had got into the country should be rooted out, CBS said many former Nazis were still living in the United States.

The disclosure came in Sunday's broadcast of the CBS news programme "60 Minutes". It was based largely on information provided by John Loftus, a former prosecutor with the U.S. office of

special investigations set up by the Justice Department to track down Nazis living in the United States.

Mr. Loftus, now a lawyer in Boston, said he concentrated on one area of Byelorussia, a Soviet republic which was occupied by the Germans, to find out how many officials appointed by the Nazis went to the United States after the war.

Mr. Loftus said the investigation found that "the entire Nazi government of Byelorussia, the president, the vice-presidents, cabinet ministers, governors and mayors, police chiefs were all living in America."

He alleged that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), army intelligence and State Department were aware of this, and in fact "recruited them

because they were Nazis."

Asked if any were still in the United States, Mr. Loftus replied: "I would say that as a conservative estimate there are more than 300 Byelorussian Nazis living in America today."

He said they were U.S. citizens, and some were still working for the U.S. government. CBS correspondent Mike Wallace alleged that some were working for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, U.S.-funded radio stations which beam broadcasts at Eastern Europe.

Mr. Loftus said the Byelorussian Nazis were recruited because U.S. officials believed they could be used in a secret army operating behind the Iron Curtain, to carry out assassinations and start a civil war.

But he said the venture proved a failure because "every one of their operations had been penetrated by the Soviets."

Wallace said that two Soviet agents, ex-Nazi Heinz Felke of West German intelligence and British agent Kim Philby, helped convince U.S. officials of the value of the former Nazis.

Mr. Loftus said that one former Nazi who worked for Radio Liberty and became a U.S. citizen was Stanislaw Stankewitch, who implemented German orders to kill every Jew in Byelorussia.

He said his office drew up a case against Stankewitch, including confessions and admissions of his Nazi past. But Stankewitch, who was living in New York City, died before the case could come to trial.

Soviet aid props up Afghan economy despite war

By Irajul Hasan
Reuters

NEW DELHI — Despite the strains of a protracted war against Muslim rebels, the Afghan government says it has restored a measure of economic stability, mainly because of support from the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union is the main trading partner and biggest source of aid for Afghanistan, a poor landlocked country of 16 million people, starved of international financial assistance since Moscow's military intervention there in Dec. 1979.

Western aid has ground to a halt and an Afghan government minister complained recently that even international financial bodies had withheld assistance.

Deputy Finance Minister Fazl Haque Khaliqyar told the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) annual meeting in Manila last month: "We find it regrettable and unfair that the flow of aid to our country should remain suspended even by international financial institutions because of political considerations and pressures."

The last loan the ADB granted Afghanistan was in 1979 before the Russians sent in an estimated

85,000 troops to crush the rebellion against President Babrak Karmal's government.

ADB President Masao Fujiko told the meeting the bank would have to wait for a situation more conducive to its banking needs before it granted new loans.

The Afghan government's war against Islamic insurgents, now in its third year, is hurting the economy and forcing the Soviet Union to shoulder an increasingly heavy burden, diplomatic sources here say.

Moscow meets 18 per cent of Afghanistan's budget expenses, according to the official Afghan media. In 1980-81, 30 per cent of the budget of 33.7 billion Afghanis (\$780 million) was funded from abroad.

Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kishnamand told his cabinet recently "...was it not for the all-round financial assistance of the Soviet Union... we would not have been able to prepare our (1982-83) budget without deficit."

As a result of the Soviet aid, the economy of Afghanistan, one of the world's least developed countries with a gross national product per head of \$170, improved in the financial year ending in March 1982.

The official Bakhtar news

agency quoted Mr. Kishnamand as saying his government had been able not only to maintain economic stability, but to a certain extent to make provision for future growth.

This had been done "in spite of the difficulties emanating from the undeclared war of imperialist countries, led by U.S. imperialists, against revolutionary Afghanistan, and the subversive activities of internal counter-revolutionary elements," he said.

Appealing for greater economic discipline, the prime minister said: "Under the present conditions, we should largely economise the financial resources, try to make maximum and effective use of every afghani, and avoid unnecessary expenditures."

He did not give details of the new budget, but according to official statistics quoted by the state-run Kabul New Times newspaper, a 1.6 per cent rise in GNP was recorded in 1981-82 and national income rose by 2.4 per cent.

Industrial output was estimated to have risen by 9.5 per cent after nil growth the previous year and notable improvements were reported in the output of cement, coal and natural gas.

Though Western diplomats here said the fighting in the coun-

tryside had disrupted farming, Afghan officials say the harvest has been better than in previous years.

Mr. Khaliqyar told the ADB that agricultural output had increased by 3.5 per cent in 1981-82 after a one per cent decline in 1980-81.

Kabul New Times said the country's two most important industrial crops, cotton and beetroot, had shown production increases of 23.1 and 28.6 per cent respectively.

A senior agriculture ministry official said the country produced 2.8 million tonnes of wheat, Afghanistan's staple crop, in the past year — a 3.6 per cent rise over the previous year.

The Kabul New Times said in an editorial that foodgrains and livestock products were amply available in the markets.

Production shortages in sugar and wheat were being met by supplies from the Soviet Union, sold to Afghanistan at below international prices, the newspaper said.

Since 1979 there has been a dramatic increase in the supply of Soviet commodities to Afghanistan. Moscow's share of the country's total imports last year is officially put at 37 per cent.

Under a protocol signed in Kabul last February, the Soviet Union's exports to Afghanistan this year will include petroleum products, consumer goods, machinery and motor vehicles in exchange for Afghanistan's natural gas, barytes, carpets, wool, cotton, dry and fresh fruits.

Last year the volume of trade between the two neighbours increased by 30 per cent to \$930 million.

Official reports said the Soviet Union had pledged to deliver consumer goods worth 10 million roubles (\$13 million) as grant-in-aid and a credit of five million roubles (\$6.5 million) to help Afghanistan buy Soviet sugar and petroleum products.

Afghanistan's main sources of foreign earnings is from the sale of natural gas to the Soviet Union. Bakhtar news agency said natural gas worth \$267 million is to be exported to the Soviet Union in 1982-83, but it did not state the quantity.

Natural gas is the only major energy resources in Afghanistan to have been exploited. Reserves in the north, close to the Soviet border, are estimated by the World Bank at 120 billion cubic metres.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q. — The only Rule of Eleven I know is how many men are permitted on the football field for a play — you have twelve, you get a penalty and loss of down! So I was surprised to find a reference to the Rule of Eleven in your column a while ago. Are you trying to pull my leg, or what? — J. J. Taylor, Palm Beach, Fla.

(This question has been awarded the weekly prize.) A. — How shrewd of you to appeal to one of the world's great football fans so that you could win a book! The Rule of Eleven is perhaps just as important to bridge as it is to a ball game.

Actually, the Rule of Eleven is a slight misnomer — it is not really a rule at all. It is simply an easy method to calculate, when your partner has made a fourth-best lead against a contract, how many cards higher than the one led are held by the other three hands combined. Since you know how many you hold, and can count how many dummy has, you can work out how many are in the other concealed hand. Here's a simple example:

Dummy Q 9 2

You K 10 7

Suppose that partner leads the six of this suit, and as a result of the bidding you can determine that this has to be a fourth-best lead. Your function is to determine how many cards higher than the six are held by declarer.

The formula is simple. Subtract the card led from 11, and the answer is the number of cards higher than the six that are distributed in the other three hands. You don't have to be a mathematical genius to work out that 11-6=5. Now you know that the three hands combined have five cards higher than the six, and in your hand and dummy you can see all five. Ergo, declarer has no card higher than the six.

That's comforting to know. All you have to do is simply cover whichever card is played from dummy and you know that declarer cannot win the trick.

The Rule of Eleven is available to declarer as well. Consider this case:

Dummy A Q 2

Declarer 10 8 3

Your opponent leads the seven, which again you believe to be a fourth-best lead. Using your new-found arithmetical skills, you work out that the other three hands have four cards higher than the seven. In your hand and dummy you see those four cards, so East has no card higher than the seven. Your left-hand opponent has led from K-J-9-7, and you can play low from dummy confident that your eight is going to win the trick.

Why does the Rule of Eleven work? In effect, each suit consists of thirteen cards numbered 2 to 14 (the ace). Since the leader automatically has three cards higher than the one led, those do not count in the calculation. So deducting 3 from 14 gives you eleven.